

JUNE 2008



KZN CTC
KZN CLOTHING AND TEXTILE CLUSTER

Special Points of Interest

- ◆ *AMTP 21st-26th July 2008 - Book your place Now!*
- ◆ *AMTP Programme: Highlights from 2007*
- ◆ *New retailer joins Clusters*

Calling all AMTP Candidates...

We are pleased to inform you that the KZN CTC is launching the 2008 Advanced Manufacturing Training Programme (AMTP) to be run from the 21st– 26th July.

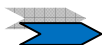
The 2007 programme delivered measured savings and contributed to the competitiveness of participating firms. The refinements for the 2008 programme are expected to yield even greater results.

We are therefore calling all member firms to put forward dynamic, full-time employees to take part in this fantastic fully-subsidised programme.

Candidates should have the ability to work both individually and as part of a team to drive positive change through their firm.

This intensive training programme successfully condenses the nucleus of the cluster's training and workshops held throughout the year into 6 full days. The carefully structured programme alternates between theory and practice, with visits to factories included as part of the learning experience. Participants are then mentored through practical applications in their own factory environment, with the potential to make a positive contribution to the competitiveness of the firm.

To read more and for details on how to apply, please contact kznctc@bmanalysts.com, or call (031) 765 3870.



Advanced Manufacturing Training Programme 2008

21st - 26th July 2008

We are pleased to inform you that the KwaZulu-Natal Clothing & Textile Cluster, in collaboration with the South African retailers, is launching the 2008 Advanced Manufacturing Training Programme!

2007: Work in progress reduced from 6 days to 1.5 days

2007: attendance improved by 71%

2007: on-time delivery improved by 45%

The 2007 programme delivered hard results, ultimately contributing to the competitiveness of participating firms. The refinements for the 2008 programme are expected to yield even greater results.

2007: efficiencies improved by 70% incurring a saving of R443,360.00

We are therefore calling all member firms to put forward dynamic full-time employees to take part in this fantastic fully-subsidised training programme.

Candidates should have the ability to work both individually and as part of a team to drive positive change through their firm.

Places in the programme are limited - confirm your participation now!
Call us on 031 765 3870 or e-mail rob@bmanalysts.com

Cape Union Mart Joins Clusters

We would like to welcome a new addition, Cape Union Mart, to the Clothing and Textile Clusters. Existing members include Edcon, Truworths, Woolworths, Pep Retail, Foschini and Mr Price). The retailers are primarily involved in the Value Chain Alignment (VCA) programme. At its core, the primary focus of the Value Chain Alignment programme is to forge synergies between clothing and textile suppliers, and the major clothing retailers into which they supply. In addition, participating retailers have made a generous financial commitment to the Cluster, thus permitting the expansion of certain critical Value Chain Alignment activities, including full sponsorship of the AMTP.

Results of the 2007 AMTP, in Brief...

The 2007 Advanced Manufacturing Training Programme (AMTP) began in early August 2007 with 9 days of intensive training. This was conducted at B&M Analysts' offices in Hillcrest and a number of automotive, clothing and textile firms who graciously allowed participants full access to their operations in order to facilitate the learning process. In total 12 participants from 8 firms took part in the programme. Following the completion of the training, this team of "change agents" met on a regular basis as a peer group, viewing and reviewing one another's projects in a drive towards applying the lessons of World Class Manufacturing within their sphere of influence. The peer mentoring sessions were completed in November and final reports were submitted in January 2008. While each of the projects succeeded in various forms, the two that really stood out were those of Allwear and Frame Textiles.

Allwear's Project

Prudence Zwane and Zanele Malinga of Allwear focussed their attentions on the longs and jersey lines. Their initial objectives were to create a clean and neat working environment, reduce WIP and lead times, and increase efficiencies against targets in these specific areas. Prudence and Zanele improved upon the existing measurement system, enhanced information sharing through short morning meetings, re-balanced their lines and instituted a basic 5S programme. *So what were the results?* Efficiencies in the longs section increased by 40% and were still rising at the end of the project. Efficiencies in the jersey section increased by a staggering 75%! Repairs decreased by 90% in the longs section and 50% in the jersey section. WIP was reduced from 7 to 2.5 days, incurring a direct saving of R164 000. Attendance was improved by 71% by the project end. Well done to Prudence and Zanele for all their hard work,

Frame Textile's Project

Ross Pillay of Frame Textiles was part of a team focusing on improved mettler efficiencies in the doubling area of the spinning department, and operated under the guidance of Roland Castleton. The problem identification concluded that no target was defined, no relevant data existed, workload per employee was much lower than their main competitors, operator standards and planning methods were not assessed, shift changes were not controlled, multi-skilling was limited, and finally, ends down tests were not being done. A fishbone diagram (Ishikawa) was developed to help break the problems down into their constituent parts. Other problem solving techniques such as 5 Why's were also deployed. The target was to achieve and stabilise the process at 75% efficiency. On this basis, a plan of action and control was introduced and executed.



Prudence Zwane and Zanele Malinga from Allwear receive their AMTP awards

This included ends down checks twice weekly, close monitoring of waste (rejects and scrap) per shift, monitoring efficiencies in visual format, and improved housekeeping. Individual operator performance monitoring and feedback was also improved. The measured outcome was an increase in efficiencies from 50% to 85% (70% improvement). The cumulative savings over this period amounted to R443 360! Congratulations to the team at Frame for this achievement.

Overall, these two projects were a remarkable success, and further improvements are already underway. A key lesson that emerged from AMTP 2007 was that success does not necessarily require allocation of financial resources, but does require maximum focus and effort – the World Class Way!!

Feedback from Recent Activities

"This was a real eye opener to me" – Zorbatex (Problem Solving training)

"The course was excellent as well as the presenter and I am ready for problem solving" - Trubok (Problem Solving training)

"I enjoyed the past two days, purely because it has changed my mindset. From mass production to WCM" – Traffic Clothing (WCM Supervisor training)

We're on the Web!
Visit www.kznctc.org.za