



Starting a WoodLINKS Program in your Area

Why:

- You need skilled entry-level employees now and in the future
- You want to become more competitive

Current Situation:

- School programs poorly equipped. Funding for teacher training and new equipment is scarce if not impossible to find. Teaching resources are at best archaic.
- Schools are quickly eliminating wood or other technical programs because of cost and because of National priority policies such as “No Child Left Behind”
- Teachers are poorly connected to the wood industry
- If the wood industry does not step forward and become pro-active, we will have the same situation in the future.

You can make a difference!

What to do:

- **Decide that your company needs a future skilled work force and together with WoodLINKS, commit to being a partner with a local school. We cannot do it without your support. The program is proven - our graduate students are “productive”.**
- **Determine if your local school is capable and/or interested in a national industry wood manufacturing program leading to significant teacher training and National Certification of the students. (Note: We do not call these programs “SHOP”) If you cannot find a local school, call the State Department of Education or call WoodLINKS USA.**
- **Commit to a recruitment strategy leading to careers rather than “jobs”. Otherwise, why would someone work in your facility?**
- **Assist WoodLINKS USA in developing the local or closest school wood program.**
- **Encourage your association to be supportive of WoodLINKS USA.**
- **Believe in our talented youth and teachers. They will come through for you.**