

TEAM ORIENTATION & INTRODUCTION TO LUMBER

ABOUT HARDY TECHNOLOGIES LLC DBA IDAHO FOREST

GROUP. From their Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, headquarters, Idaho Forest Group (IFG), a closely-held, family-owned company, is now one of America's largest lumber producers, with capacity for over one billion board feet per year and markets around the globe. The company holds high standards when it comes to product, process and company objectives that make it competitive both nationally and internationally. IFG is a growing company, operating five sawmills and a finger-joint facility located in North Idaho and an up-and-coming sawmill in Lumberton, Mississippi, that values employees and holds a reputation for high quality products. The Lumberton facility is in the process of hiring the inaugural cohort of plant personnel including technicians, engineers and administration.

THE CHALLENGE. The fiber conversion facility in Lumberton, Mississippi, will utilize advanced automation and related technologies to produce lumber in a modern and cutting-edge technology facility. New employees will need to integrate their own knowledge, skills, and abilities with the company culture, workplace safety, best practices in communication and problem solving, and a foundational understanding of the lumber industry. IFG needed a partner with the skills and knowledge to create and deliver the necessary training. They turned to the MMA-MEP Center at Pearl River Community College (PRCC MMA-MEP), part of the MEP National Network™.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. The MMA-MEP Center at Pearl River Community College worked with IFG staff to design and deliver a week-long team orientation and introduction to lumber course that included thirty-five contact hours in the history and background of the company, culture, problem-solving, lumber industry standards and related math, OSHA 10 general industry, first aid/CPR, and team building.

"The team orientation and Introduction to Lumber course was the result of a collaborative design effort between our leadership and Pearl River Community College's MMA-MEP Center. The PRCC MMA-MEP team was receptive and responsive throughout the design phase, creating training that was highly relevant for the on-the-ground needs of our new Lumberton facility. Our team members benefitted greatly from the final product and will continue to integrate the lessons from that week into their daily job performance. We value our workforce training partnership with the PRCC MMA-MEP Center."

-Trey Smith, Human Resources Manager, Lumberton IFG

RESULTS



15 new team members completed the interactive contextual learning experiences.



Increased knowledge and job performance

CONTACT US



720 North President
P.O. Box 22607, Jackson, MS
39225
Jackson, MS 39202



(601)709-2921



www.mma-web.org/mep

Mississippi Manufacturers Association



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