

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 1, 2003

**Media Contact:** Whitney Rosenbalm, 972/238-6022

Richland College and Intercontinental Manufacturing Company (IMCO - Garland, TX) were awarded a \$399,740 Job Training Grant from the Texas Workforce Commission. This grant will enable Richland College to provide industrial and soft skills training to employees of IMCO.

The Dallas area workforce will benefit from a \$399,740 job training grant from the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) Skills Development Fund.

The grant will be used to custom train workers who will fill 666 new or upgraded jobs. Richland College, a college of the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD), will provide training through their Corporate Services office. IMCO job positions receiving training will include assemblers, controllers, design engineers, document control specialists, program managers, receptionists, welders and more. Employees will receive an average hourly wage of \$16.58 upon completion of training.

"This grant represents a win-win situation for all of us, as workers receive valuable training, employers get a custom-trained workforce, and the community benefits through the creation of jobs and the influx of almost \$400,000 in training," said state Rep. Fred Hill. "Congratulations to the Dallas County Community College District, Richland College and Intercontinental Manufacturing Company for bringing this grant to our area."

"Creating a skilled workforce is one of our top priorities, and there is no better method for doing that than the Skills Development Fund," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor T.P. O'Mahoney. "Through this grant, 666 workers will receive customized skills training to keep them competitive in the workplace, while their employer gets a top-notch workforce."

In Fiscal Year 2002, 33 Skills Development Fund grants created or upgraded 11,004 jobs (4,563 and 6,441 respectively). The jobs paid an average hourly wage of \$14.43. The grants totaled \$11,748,729 and helped 12 consortia of 160 Texas employers. The Legislature has appropriated \$25 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2002-03 biennium.

Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund or Self-Sufficiency Fund may visit the TWC Web site at [www.texasworkforce.org](http://www.texasworkforce.org).

Richland's Corporate Services Office provides customized training, outplacement, consulting and a skilled labor pool with college staff, instructional designers and experienced faculty to offer training solutions through workforce learning and skills training. For more information on Richland's Corporate Services offerings call Debbi Richards, (972) 238-6969, or e-mail at: [debbi@dcccd.edu](mailto:debbi@dcccd.edu).

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