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Education and Industry Professionals Gather to Identify Best Practices in Solving Workforce Needs

The Center for the Advancement of Process Technology (CAPT) will sponsor the third annual Critical Issues and Best Practices Conference on September 30 and October 1 at the South Shore Harbour Resort and Conference Center in League City, Texas.

The CIBP Conference, which is attended by about 250 representatives from industries and colleges each year, will include speakers, forums, and breakout sessions on ways industry, businesses, and educators can work together to build a more highly skilled process technology workforce.

“The goal of the conference is to provide an opportunity for educators and industry to meet, share viewpoints, discuss problem areas, and collaborate on practices that will improve how process technology is taught,” said Merv Treigle, Assistant Director of CAPT.

“This is an opportunity to make sure that curriculum development and the skills and knowledge of the process technology graduates continue to meet industry standards required of their workforce. The process technology industries are starting to hire, and the number of available jobs is expected to increase as the current aging workforce begins to retire. This is good news in today’s job market.”

Process Technology is a career for students seeking a high-tech job in fields such as chemical manufacturing, oil and gas exploration and production, petroleum refining, pharmaceuticals, food processing, pulp and paper manufacturing, water treatment, and power generation.

In addition to improving communication and understanding among educators and industry, the conference will identify ways to continue to impact the workforce of the future, as well as provide opportunities to learn how to establish or improve process technology programs and alliances.

“This is an international conference, with educators coming from as far away as Alaska, the Virgin Islands, and China,” Treigle said. “We’re bringing in people from colleges and industries

with successful process technology program partnerships and they will be sharing their experiences on ways to increase the employability of students after graduation.”

“The conference is open to anyone who wants a program to provide a skilled labor force,” he said. “Companies look at what resources are available in an area when they are considering establishing operations there. When community and technical colleges offer training programs such as the Process Technology degree, they increase the attractiveness of their city or region as a place for industry to do business.”

This year, in addition to the 2-day conference, a Training and Development Pre-Conference will be offered on September 28. A one-day event, the Pre-Conference provides the opportunity for plant and facility trainers, managers, and supervisors to network, benchmark, and share best practices. Professional development workshops will also be offered.

Advance registration is available for the Pre-Conference and/or the CIBP Conference online at www.capttech.org. Calls may be directed to Tina Burkhalter at 409/938-1211 x 100.

South Shore Harbour Resort is located on Clear Lake, midway between Houston and Galveston in League City.