MSSC Overview

The manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) is the nation's leading industry-led training, assessments, and certification organization focused on the core technical competencies needed by the nation's frontline production and material handling workers. The nationwide MSSC certifications, based upon industry-defined and federally-endorsed national standards, offer both entry-level and incumbent workers the opportunity to demonstrate that they have acquired the knowledge and skills increasingly needed in the technology-intensive advanced manufacturing and logistics jobs of the 21st century. MSSC applies to all frontline manufacturing production jobs (6 million) and all front-line material handling and distribution jobs (6.1 million). MSSC has developed two nationally portable certifications for this workforce:

Certified Production Technician (CPT) The CPT certification addresses the core technical competencies of higher skilled production workers in all sectors of manufacturing. MSSC awards certificates to individuals who pass any of its five production modules: Safety, Quality Practices and Measurement, Manufacturing Processes & Production, Maintenance Awareness, and Green Production and a full CPT certification to those who pass all four core modules.

Certified Logistics Technician (CLT) The CLT certification addresses the core technical competencies of higher skilled, frontline material handling workers in all supply chain facilities: factories, warehouses, distribution centers, and transportation companies. MSSC awards the foundational-level Certified Logistics Associate (CLA) certificate and the mid-level CLT certification. CLA is a prerequisite for CLT.

MSSC benefits to employers include:

1. A pipeline of skilled workers by embedding MSSC certification training into schools
2. Decreased recruitment costs by providing job candidates with industry-recognized credentials
3. Elimination of remedial training costs by providing well prepared workers
4. A new ISO standard in certificates that companies can use as common practice throughout their global operations
5. Increased ROI for training by targeting it against the gaps identified by the MSSC Diagnostic Tool
6. An aid to attracting, motivating, and retaining qualified employees

Certified Production Technician

Key Work Activities for Standards, Training, and Assessments

SAFETY

1. Work in a safe and productive manufacturing workplace.
2. Perform safety and environmental inspections.
3. Perform emergency drills and participate in emergency teams.
4. Identify unsafe conditions and take corrective actions.
5. Provide safety orientation for all employees.
6. Train personnel to use equipment safely.
7. Suggest processes and procedures that support safety of work environment.
8. Fulfill safety and health requirements for maintenance, installation, and repair.
9. Monitor safe equipment and operator performance.
10. Utilize effective, safety-enhancing workplace practices.

MANUFACTURING PROCESSES & PRODUCTION

1. Identify customer needs.
2. Determine resources available for the production process.
3. Set up equipment for the production process.
4. Set team production goals.
5. Make job assignments.
6. Coordinate work flow with team members and other work groups.
7. Communicate production and material requirements and product specifications.
8. Perform and monitor the process to make the product.
9. Document product and process compliance with customer requirements.
10. Prepare final product for shipping or distribution.

GREEN PRODUCTION

1. Train workers in environmental issues.
2. Implement and promote environmental programs, projects, policies, or procedures.
3. Conduct environmental incident and hazard investigations.
4. Conduct preventive environmental inspections.
5. Monitor environmental aspects at each stage of production.
6. Implement continuous improvement in environmental assurance practices.
7. Use advanced materials to reduce waste.
8. Reprocess materials by recycling throughout product life cycle to optimize waste reduction.

QUALITY PRACTICES & MEASUREMENT

1. Participate in periodic internal quality audit activities.
2. Check calibration of gauges and other data collection equipment.
3. Suggest continuous improvements.
4. Inspect materials and product/process at all stages to ensure they meet specifications.
5. Document the results of quality tests.
6. Communicate quality problems.
7. Take corrective actions to restore or maintain quality.
8. Record process outcomes and trends.
9. Identify fundamentals of blueprint reading.
10. Use common measurement systems and precision measurement tools.

MAINTENANCE AWARENESS

1. Perform preventive maintenance and routine repair.
2. Monitor indicators to ensure correct operations.
3. Perform all housekeeping to maintain production schedule.
4. Recognize potential maintenance issues with basic production systems, including knowledge of when to inform maintenance personnel about problems with:
    - Electrical systems
    - Pneumatic systems
    - Hydraulic systems
    - Machine automation systems
    - Lubrication processes
    - Bearings and couplings
    - Belts and chain drive

Certified Logistic Technician

Key Work Activities for Standards, Training, and Assessments

Foundation-level Certified Logistics Associate (CLA)

- Demonstrate an understanding of various roles in the global supply chain logistics life cycle.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the logistics environment.
- Operate and use equipment.
- Practice safety principles.
- Practice safety principles in the handling of materials and operation of equipment.
- Practice quality control principles.
- Employ work communication practices.
- Practice teamwork and good workplace behavior to solve problems.
- Use relevant computer systems and applications to increase productivity.

Mid-level Certified Logistics Technician (CLT)

- Receive products.
- Stock products.
- Process product orders.
- Prepare packages for shipment and ship products.
- Maintain control of inventory.
- Handle hazardous materials in a safe manner.
- Evaluate transportation modes.
- Perform dispatch, routing, and tracking operations.
- Understand U.S. measurements and metric system conversions.