Wisconsin IoT Council Announces New Scholarship Program For Upskilling and Re-skilling in the Manufacturing Industry

Sheboygan, WI - The Wisconsin IoT Council (WIoT) is excited to announce a new scholarship program designed to support technical education in the smart factory space. The program, available to existing workers looking to upskill, high school and college students pursuing a career in the IoT space, will be accepting applications from now through to April 28, 2024.

According to the 8th Annual State of Smart Manufacturing Report by Rockwell Automation, 45% of Manufacturers feel that improving quality is creating the need to accelerate digital transformation in their organization. 40% see the lack of skilled workforce as the biggest struggle in the next 12 months to outpace the competition compared to 2022.

With the growing demand for data analytics, adopting smart manufacturing software, adopting cloud technology, and the increased use of Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning, the WIoT Council recognizes the importance of investing in the future of Wisconsin's manufacturing workforce. The scholarship program aims to make it easier for individuals to access technical education and certifications and contribute to the growth of the manufacturing industry.

"Wisconsin Manufacturers have good upside opportunities to both grow and increase productivity, supply chain resiliency, sustainability, cybersecurity and human capabilities, augmented by integrating new connected technologies to achieve improved economic outcomes. This growth and modern skilled workforce is becoming more clearly linked to inspiring and attracting a pipeline of school students, current tertiary students, incumbents and new entrants to embrace relevant digital skill sets and benefit from rewarding career paths in advanced manufacturing," said Michael Cook of Rockwell Automation, and who sits on the Scholarship committee of the WIoT Council.

There are two types of scholarships available: Traditional and Non-Traditional.

Non-Traditional applicants are for any student or employees seeking certifications or completing modules at any Wisconsin Technical College, provided the tech college is a member of the WIoT Council. To find out if your company or technical school is a member, simply log into the council website to see their membership.

Traditional applicants are for existing 4-year college students and Technical college students who are pursuing a degree in the IoT/ Manufacturing space.

The scholarship program covers some of the costs of technical college and college tuition. Applications will be evaluated based on qualifications and potential for success in the industry.

To build support for the program and generate more donations, The WIoT Council is planning an awards event in June at their 2nd quarter symposium to recognize scholarship recipients and their achievements. With your support, we can help more individuals access technical education and prepare for a successful career in the industry.

For more information on the scholarship program and how to apply, please visit our website at https://www.wisconsiniot.org/Scholarships

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