



Advancing Southern Virginia's economic potential through education, innovation, and collaboration.

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Harry Moser, the Pied Piper of Manufacturing, to Keynote Workforce Forward Forum 2012

South Boston, VA--Harry Moser, founder of the Reshoring Initiative and hailed as the Pied Piper of Manufacturing, will be the keynote speaker at the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center's Workforce Forward Forum 2012. Since beginning the Reshoring Initiative in 2010, Moser has become the face of the growing movement to bring off-shored manufacturing back to the United States.

Moser spent his career in manufacturing, and served as president of Charmilles Technologies and chairman emeritus of its successor GF AgieCharmilles before his retirement. He was inducted into the IndustryWeek Manufacturing Hall of Fame in 2010 where he joined the ranks of Jack Welch, Steve Jobs, and Michael Dell. In January 2012, Moser joined 18 fellow business leaders at the White House for President Obama's forum on "Insourcing American Jobs."

Retired from industry, Moser now dedicates his time and resources to his passion for reviving American manufacturing. He works with US manufacturers to help them recognize the total cost of ownership when off-shoring, and to see that bringing jobs back to American shores has massive benefits for their company and the US economy. In his IndustryWeek Hall of Fame profile Moser stated, "I won't stop until my reshoring initiative brings hundreds of thousands of jobs back to the U.S. and manufacturing becomes a career choice for the next generation."

Moser will deliver more of his ideas and insights into America's manufacturing renaissance at the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center's Workforce Forward Forum 2012 scheduled for September 20th at The Prizery in South Boston, VA. The Forum's theme, "Virginia Manufacturing: Back to the Future," is focused on the centerpiece idea that in spite of plant closures and jobs lost to overseas competitors, manufacturing is very much alive in the US and Virginia. While it may seem a "Back to the Future" moment, the landscape is very different today than it was years ago when the region's economy thrived on tobacco, textiles, and furniture. Today, a new, collaborative approach to workforce education is required if the region is to overcome the existing skills gap that threatens Southern Virginia's ability to take advantage of this manufacturing renaissance.

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“Having Harry Moser in Southern Virginia is huge,” said SVHEC Executive Director Dr. Betty Adams. “The Manufacturing Renaissance is real, and we – as a region – must be workforce ready. Mr. Moser will explain the reshoring phenomena and offer suggestions on how Southern Virginia can be ready for the opportunities that are coming our way,” she continued.

Manufacturers, economic developers, educators, workforce professionals and stakeholders are encouraged to attend Workforce Forward Forum 2012. Early bird registration is \$40 and opens June 1st. Seating is limited. For more information visit www.svhec.org, email workforceforward@svhec.org, or call 434-572-5488 and toll free 1-800-283-0098 ext 5488.

Workforce Forward Forum 2012 is an initiative of the Southern Virginia Higher Education Center.

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