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Open House for Mitsubishi Electric Training Center at Rhodes State College Draws Officials from Around the State

LIMA, Ohio – Rhodes State College hosted the Grand Opening of Ohio's only certified Mitsubishi Electric Training Center on Sept. 23 drawing regional manufacturers and state government officials to see the equipment-filled classroom.

The Mitsubishi Electric Training Center at Rhodes State is made possible through a partnership between the College and Mitsubishi Electric Automation, Inc. The Center, located on Rhodes State's campus at 4240 Campus Drive, Lima, is Ohio's only Certified Mitsubishi Electric Factory Automation Training Center. The main purpose is to provide training for Mitsubishi Electric's Programmable Logic Controls (PLCs).

Mark Werthman, Director Technical Support Group for Mitsubishi Electric, said "the motivation for establishing the training center with Rhodes State is to provide more localized or regional-based training for our customers."

"Rhodes State is an ideal partner, as Ohio has the largest concentrations of our products in the U.S."

Previously, training for Mitsubishi Electric PLCs was only available at Mitsubishi Electric Automation, Inc. headquarters in Vernon Hills, Ill. At Rhodes State, the Center's state-of-the-art classroom is filled with cutting-edge training equipment and software – like PLCs, Human Machine Interface (HMI) and Servos – and instructors who have been fully trained and certified by Mitsubishi. The result is a series of standardized training modules identical to those offered at Mitsubishi headquarters.

Dr. Matthew J. Kinkley, Executive Director Workforce, Economic Development and Continuing Education at Rhodes State, said, “bringing the Mitsubishi Electric Training Center here puts us in a position to support companies in a way we have not done before.”

PLCs are often used when a piece of machinery needs to perform repetitive and or sequential tasks. Last year, Werthman said, more than 600 people came to Mitsubishi Electric’s Vernon Hills’ office to receive training. In 2011, half of the students trained on PLCs.

At the Open House, guests had an opportunity to also tour the Mitsubishi Solutions in Motion 53-foot long Mobile Showroom. Interactive demonstration pods in the Solutions Gallery with 32-inch high-definition video monitors displayed Mitsubishi Electric PLC products, servos, VFDs, HMIs and networks in a wide range of manufacturing applications.

The next set of classes at the Mitsubishi Training Center starts Oct. 22 and 23. For more information or to register, please call 419.995.8351.

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