

Subj: **NVC 030811 Workplace Education**
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 NAEPDC
 News, Views, and Clues
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Workplace Education

In our recent history, we had thousands of adult education programs in industries across the country. Employers paid some or all of the costs for upgrading the skills of their workforce so they could support the technology that was replacing the *lift and put* jobs of old.

Below and attached is a note sent by Karen Liersch (AZ) about a current workplace education program. As you will note from the comments of the plant manager, these programs not only provide just-in-time education for employees, they create business advocates for our services.

All NAEPDC News, Views, and Clues are archived at:
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Keep up the good work. Let me know when we can help.

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Adult Basic Education Strengthens Tucson*s Workforce and Builds Local
 Business
 Adult Basic Education Strengthens Tucson*s Workforce and Builds Local
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 February 27, 2011

AGM Container Controls (AGM), is a manufacturing company with approximately 110 employees, and is based in Tucson, AZ. Like several other businesses, AGM has greatly benefited from Adult Basic Education. The Adult Education program has helped AGM create an educated workforce and a thriving company.

Howard Stewart, CEO/President of AGM had this to say:

*About three or four years ago, I paid for instructors to come out from Pima College Adult Basic Education program to work with a half dozen or more of our Hispanic laborers on their English skills. I wanted them to use the same language as everyone else in the company. I also didn*t want them to be at a disadvantage when it came to opportunities to move up within the company. As a result, I actually paid my employees to attend your courses. The instructors did a great job. The students learned English well enough to do well in their jobs and at least half of them, or more, continue to work for us. I was very pleased that I could call upon Pima College Adult Basic Education program to help me with this workforce problem.*

Howard Stewart is not only the CEO/President of AGM but a prominent leader in his community. Howard was recognized as the *Tucson Small Business Leader of the Year, 2002* and his company was hailed as America*s Small Business of the Year * in 2009 by the United States Chamber of Commerce.