



Quality training reigns at Ford

Ford Motor Company

In a notable existing-industry project, Quick Start is helping Ford update its Quality Leadership System (QLS) by training some 2,300 employees at the Hapeville plant.

QLS is a computer-based tracking system that assures the highest standards of quality during production. Because of recent, wide-ranging advances in the system, nearly every position in the plant now interfaces with QLS, from assembly to repair work to quality checks.

“We appreciate Quick Start for providing technical support in the design and development of our QLS training course and materials,” said Plant Manager Patricia Reid at the training plan signing. “Your commitment will go a long way toward helping us sustain the ongoing development of our employees.”

Along with Quick Start and Ford, the training partnership also includes the UAW Local 882 and the technical division of Clayton College and State University.

UAW Local 882 Chairman Mitch Smith said proudly that the Hapeville plant is Ford’s No. 1 North American plant in man-hour productivity. “We

at the UAW feel blessed to work at this facility,” he said.

HR Manager Cerita Brown noted that successful collaborations leverage the best resources, skills and knowledge of each party. “Industry, labor and the state create the most productive partnerships,” she said.



Key individuals in the training effort are, from left, Cerita Brown, Ford HR manager; Danny Sparks and Jack Schuch, Ford QLS specialists; Patricia Reid, Ford plant manager; Kim Learnard, a Quick Start training developer; Doris Fowlkes, Ford QLS specialist; Mitch Smith, UAW Local 882 chairman; and Joe McClure, Ford quality manager.



From left are Dr. Michael Moye, Lanier Tech president; Dr. Ken Breeden, DTAE commissioner; Joe Mallof, CIBA Vision CEO; and Mike Grayson, group VP of CIBA Vision's Applied Science Manufacturing Technology Division.

company donated \$5,000 to the Lanier Technical College Foundation. The ceremony closed with a presentation of certificates to 12 CIBA Vision employees who completed the Manufacturing Associate's program, offered onsite at CIBA Vision through Lanier Tech.

“This is a great example of a partnership between business and education,” Breeden said.

CIBA Vision focuses on new line

Quick Start is embarking on a technical training project for CIBA Vision's Focus Night & Day line of contact lenses. The project will add to the 2,165 hours of training provided by Quick Start and Lanier Technical College over the past nine years.

A recent ceremony to mark the long partnership began with an overview of Quick Start by Marketing Director Mike Grundmann, followed by the training plan signing.

“I am impressed by the competency and technical nature of this training plan,” said CIBA Vision CEO Joe Mallof. “We must have good training. Otherwise, the jobs we create are not long-lasting.”

In appreciation of Lanier Tech's role in CIBA Vision's well-trained workforce, the



Grayson and Mallof present a check to Dr. Moye for the Lanier Tech Foundation.