

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
March 6, 2012  
Contact: Steve Anderson, 806.790.0176



## **The Community Workforce Partnership Creates Employee-Focused Training Facility with Grant Funds**

**(LUBBOCK)** – Thanks to a federal grant, local businesses and their employees can benefit from specialized education and training programs offered at the newly opened South Plains Center for Productivity and Innovation (SPCPI). A ribbon cutting and press conference was held Wednesday morning to celebrate the grand opening of the center.

SPCPI is an initiative of the Community Workforce Partnership (CWP), a 501(c)(3), made up of a group of local organizations dedicated to meeting the workforce needs of local businesses and industries. The partnering organizations include Workforce Solutions South Plains, Lubbock Economic Development Alliance, Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, South Plains College, West Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center (TMAC) and Texas Tech University.

The vision to create a center that would provide training at no cost for area businesses was made possible as a result of the Wagner-Peyser Grant. The \$372,000 grant was awarded to the CWP by the Texas Workforce Commission in October 2012.

“In our ever-changing economy, ongoing workforce training for South Plains area businesses is crucial for improved business competitiveness and profitability,” Steve Anderson, associate director for West Texas Manufacturing Assistance Center, said.

Workforce Solutions South Plains, the key fiscal partner, will provide administration for SPCPI, and TMAC will directly oversee daily operations, including training. Over the next year, the grant will allow training for 240 workers from at least 20 small area businesses and provide entrepreneurial training and mentoring to at least 38 new business seekers.

“The creation of the Community Workforce Partnership has been a vital component in educating and training Lubbock’s workforce,” John Osborne, president and CEO for LEDA and Market Lubbock, said. “The CWP’s goal is to consistently and successfully provide training opportunities for the Lubbock business community and the opening of SPCPI helps us meet that mission.”

The new facility, located at 1622 Mac Davis Lane, will provide training and education in a variety of specialized areas, including Operations and Service Measurements, Continuous Improvement, Service Business Flow and Simulations, Sales Team Strategy and Structure and more. Additional course topics will be provided in the future and custom course development is also available. The regional center will train workers from identified businesses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) related skills.

Employers or entrepreneurs interested in finding out more information or eligibility requirements should contact Steve Anderson by calling 806.687.2287 or visiting [southplainsinnovation.org](http://southplainsinnovation.org).

###