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**Ohio Lightweighting Employment Levels Hit Sixth Year  
of Consecutive Growth Since Great Recession**

*More than 730,000 advanced manufacturing workers employed in the state*

**COLUMBUS, Ohio** - As the U.S. celebrates the social and economic achievements of American workers this Labor Day, the advanced manufacturing workforce in Ohio reached a six-year high with more than 730,000 workers employed. This is according to a new report from LIFT - Lightweight Innovations For Tomorrow.

Since the depths of the Great Recession in 2010, lightweighting-related job postings in Ohio increased by nearly 13 percent, or 83,308 jobs recovered, according to the report, further highlighting the importance of this industry to the strength and prosperity of the state.

The quarterly reports, highlighting the employment trends, top jobs, and required skills in advanced manufacturing through Q2 2016, are completed with research and analysis from WIN (Workforce Intelligence Network) and cover each of the states in the five-state LIFT region of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Tennessee.

“We see great opportunity for manufacturing in the region as employers continue to seek talented and skilled workers,” said Emily Stover DeRocco, education and workforce development director for LIFT. “Bringing mind to market can only be realized if we invest in and develop the educated and skilled workforce necessary to deploy the in-demand lightweighting technologies of today and moving forward.”

Employers in the five-state lightweighting region posted more than 84,000 job ads for advanced manufacturing occupations during Q2 2016. Although posting levels are slightly down over Q1 2016, demand is here to stay as annual trends continue to rise, overall, year over year. The skilled trades dominated both employment and employer demand for advanced manufacturing workers throughout the LIFT region.

“The lightweighting industry in Ohio is clamoring for skilled workers,” said Eric Burkland, president, The Ohio Manufacturers’ Association. “To help address that need across the state, our focus is on ensuring education and training is available and accessible to Ohioans.”

The top in-demand lightweighting-related occupations in Ohio in Q2 2016 were: Maintenance and Repair Workers (2,733 postings), Laborers and Freight, Stock and Material Movers (2,404 postings), Production Workers (1,087 postings), Electrical Engineers (875 postings) and Mechanical Engineers (838 postings).

The full Ohio report can be viewed at: <http://lift.technology/education-workforce-development/>.

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#### **ABOUT LIFT**

*LIFT is a Detroit-based, public-private partnership committed to the development and deployment of advanced lightweight metal manufacturing technologies, and implementing education and training initiatives to better prepare the workforce today and in the future. LIFT is one of the founding institutes in the National Network of Manufacturing Innovation (NNMI), and is funded in part by the Department of Defense with management through the Office of Naval Research. Visit [www.lift.technology](http://www.lift.technology) to learn more.*

#### **ABOUT WORKFORCE INTELLIGENCE NETWORK OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN**

*The Workforce Intelligence Network of Southeast Michigan (WIN) is a collaborative effort between nine community colleges and six Michigan Works! Agencies, in partnership with numerous other organizations, to create a comprehensive and cohesive workforce development system in Southeast Michigan that provides employers with the talent they need for success. WIN covers a 16-county area, including Genesee, Hillsdale, Huron, Jackson, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, Tuscola, Washtenaw, and Wayne. WIN was founded with the support of the New Economy Initiative for Southeast Michigan and publicly launched in November 2011.*