



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: James Britton (603) 542-7744 x346

Director of Business Training
River Valley Community College
james.britton@ccsnh.edu

Contact: Tony Levesque (603) 542-5202, x110

Project & Safety Manager
Structural Bridges, a Division of CANAM Steel Corporation
tony.levesque@canam.ws

STRUCTURAL BRIDGES TO HIRE AND TRAIN FORTY WELDER-FITTERS OVER THE NEXT YEAR

Learn More at May 15th Job Fair

Claremont, NH— Structural Bridges, one of the largest bridge manufacturers in the country has announced today that it will be hiring and providing free training to up to forty welder-fitters over the course of the next year.

Structural Bridges is partnering with River Valley Community College (RVCC), the New Hampshire Division of Resource & Economic Development, New Hampshire Works and the Vermont Department of Labor to enroll individuals in the newly developed Structural Welder-Fitter STAR program that will provide free education and training for new employees at the Structural's facility in Claremont, New Hampshire.

"We are growing rapidly and have an immediate need to hire and train a new set of welders and fitters." said Tony Levesque, Project & Safety Manager of Structural Bridges. "We are pleased to join in partnership with this innovative program that will help Structural meet its hiring goals and provide opportunities for individuals who currently have no experience in the field."

Earnings for the welder-fitter positions at Structural will start at \$12.18 per hour with benefits, and the potential to earn up to \$17.26 per hour after one year. Graduates of the education and training program will earn up to 28 college credits towards an associate degree and a Certificate in Advanced Welding Technology from RVCC. Individuals will also participate in a one-year apprenticeship program and earn a Certificate from the U.S. Department of Labor's Apprenticeship Division upon completion.

"We are pleased to have the opportunity to deliver the education to individuals who participate in this program." said Jim Britton, Director of Business Training at RVCC. He said the individuals selected for this program will "have a unique opportunity to combine a paid position

with free education and training that is worth 28 college credits to those who successfully complete the program.”

Individuals interested in the opportunity will need to apply on-line to attend a mandatory job fair being held on Saturday, May 15th at the Structural Bridges facility in Claremont, NH.

To apply to and learn more about the Structural Welder-Fitter STAR program, visit River Valley Community College online at WWW.RIVERVALLEY.EDU or call 603-690-4029.

About the Structural Welder-Fitter STAR Program

The Structural Welder-Fitter Skills Through Apprenticeship Retraining (STAR) program begins with an eight-week, forty hours per week, total immersion education program. All participants will become employed with Structural and will be paid during the course of the program. The training program will be held in sessions of 10-15 participants each over the course of one year.

In addition to occupational skills training, soft skills and work readiness components will be woven into the curriculum. Individuals who successfully complete the course work will earn a Certificate in Advanced Welding Technology from RVCC and 28 credits towards an Associates Degree. Participants will also participate in a one-year apprenticeship and obtain a US Department of Labor Welder-Fitter Apprenticeship Certificate of Completion.

About the Welder-Fitter Positions

All positions will be 3rd shift, covering a four-day work week: Monday - Thursday, 8:00PM – 6:30AM. Program participants will be hired at the beginning of the eight-week education program and earn \$12.18/hour throughout the eight weeks of training. All successful graduates of the education program will earn \$14.21/hour with benefits (after 90 days from date of hire), plus earn a \$1/hr shift differential.

All participants will also enter a one year apprenticeship where participants will be eligible for performance-based pay increases leading to the potential of earning up to \$17.26/hour with benefits, plus \$1/hr shift differential, upon the completion of the one-year apprenticeship.

About Structural Bridges

Structural Bridges, a division of CANAM Group, Inc. was established more than 50 years ago, is one of North America’s leading manufacturers of steel bridges, structural bearings and expansion joints for the highway, railway and forestry industries in both Canada and the United States. It operates plants with a combined annual production capacity of close to 75,000 tons in Quebec City, Laval and St. Gédéon in Canada as well as in Claremont, NH, and Point of Rocks, MD, in the United States.

Structural Bridges specializes in the design, manufacture and erection of steel bridges. Its customers include general contractors in the civil engineering sector, provincial and state departments of transportation, forestry businesses and railway companies. The company has worked on several major projects in the U.S. including the Alexander Hamilton Bridge, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Throgs Neck Bridge, all in New York City; the I-93 project in Salem,

New Hampshire and the I-91/I-95 Interchange in New Haven, Connecticut.

For more information about Structural Bridges, please visit www.structalbridges.ws.

About CANAM Group Inc.

Canam Group is an industrial company operating 12 plants specialized in the design and fabrication of construction products and solutions. The company employs close to 2,600 people in Canada, the United States, Romania and India, and has partnerships with companies in Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and China.

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