



L. S. Starrett Company: MassMEP's M.O.S.T.[®] Successful Star

Toolmaker Hires 44 Workers as a Result of MassMEP's M.O.S.T.[®] Program

ATHOL, MA - The **L. S. Starrett Company**, a manufacturer of more than 5,000 variations of precision tools, gages, measuring instruments and saw blades, has been a leader in the precision tools industry for almost 130 years. Local small machine shops and large Fortune 500 companies alike turn to Starrett for their fine instruments and hand measuring tools. The company employs about 2,000 people worldwide.

With the shortage of skilled manufacturing workers across the country, Starrett was looking for ways to train and keep good employees in their shop. In order to keep up with the demand for their products and hire workers quickly, the manufacturer turned to

the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP) and the Time Wise Mobile Outreach Skills Training (M.O.S.T.[®]).

Using the Time Wise M.O.S.T.[®] mobile training unit (MTU), the MassMEP team brings instruction straight to the company's doorstep. Would-be workers are schooled in shop math, blueprinting, metrology and other hands-on work. In this case, the MassMEP team worked with Starrett to provide five separate two-week training sessions.

There are two phases to the Time Wise M.O.S.T.[®] program. In Phase One, trainees participate in an intensive, two week, 80-hour basic operator skills

training process in the MTU. In Phase Two, trainees participate in a 40 day on-the-job training process, which then results in full-time employment at the company.

Utilizing MassMEP's Time Wise M.O.S.T. ® program, 44 new workers were able to fill vacant machine operator positions and a number of computer numerical-control (CNC) operator positions at Starrett.

"We proudly boast that we are the last remaining full

line precision tool company to be manufacturing our products within the U.S., and we want it to stay that way," said Joel Shaughnessy, personnel director at Starrett.

"By using the MassMEP's M.O.S.T. ® program, we are able to equip our new workers with the skills needed to do the job. We have been able to rotate them through different departments when needed as well. We are extremely pleased with the workers we have hired as a result of M.O.S.T.® and additionally plan to utilize MassMEP's help in the future."

The Lean success story you have just read is an actual case study from one of our MEP MSI-managed state MEP centers. Our affiliate MEPs utilize the Time Wise® Management Systems' Lean transformation methodology based on world class Time Wise Solutions® training products. MSI-managed MEP center project managers are vetted and trained at the Time Wise Institute® and receive access to a full suite of integrated Time Wise® products.

Our certified Lean-trained project implementation facilitators work with a company's management team to identify conditions that impede the ability to become more competitive and prosperous. During intensive hands-on training sessions with employees at all levels of the organization, our certified Time Wise® MEP specialists solve specific problems from the shop floor to the front office and assess how well each department contributes to overall productivity and profitability. Essential tools are furnished to optimize performance and provide guidance so that companies can use those tools and systems effectively on their own to sustain the improvement process. Since our MEP affiliates have begun utilizing the Time Wise Solutions® suite of products, their performance has increased significantly. Just a fraction of the accomplishments of our affiliate state MEP centers have been reported on our web site.

To learn more about Time Wise Solutions® products or to join the Time Wise® Management Systems team of MEP Centers, please call 1-866-629-9442 or email us at: info@timewisems.com.