April 24, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

The Engine & Equipment Training Council (EETC) is a recognized trade association with a membership made up of dedicated industry professionals from manufacturers, distributors, dealers, education institutions and associations. Our primary goal is to address the shortage of qualified technicians in the outdoor power equipment industry.

Because of this shortage, we understand the need to provide relevant and meaningful training opportunities for students, as we know recruiting at an early age is very important. We view the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification as a tool to provide these meaningful opportunities and aide in the recruitment of skilled technicians for our industry.

The certification is designed to introduce students to imperative skills needed to enter the power equipment industry. Specifically, the certification lays a foundation for a better understanding of four-stroke engine components and operation, as well as basic servicing, troubleshooting and repair. Students earning this certification will be better positioned to fill the employment needs of our industry. This certification can also serve as a steppingstone for a student to further his/her career at a technical college or to obtain additional certification such as the EETC Technician Certification.

These students will be a step ahead and will no doubt help raise the level of qualified technicians in our industry.

Sincerely,

Erik Sides
Executive Director
Equipment & Engine Training Council
May 10, 2018

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the Equipment & Engine Training Council Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

My name is Mike Broetzmann, and I am the Manager for Technical Training, Gasoline Engines at Kohler Engines. In my role, I am responsible for all technician training and certification programs for the Kohler Engines worldwide distribution network, which includes over 9,300 servicing dealers in North America. Our engines and dealer network service and support equipment is used in a myriad of industries including agriculture, lawn care as well as gas and oil production.

At Kohler, we strive to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations through design, craftsmanship and innovation. In order to achieve our goals, Kohler Engines relies on a workforce of qualified employees who possess knowledge of small engine technology and skills related to engine maintenance. Yet, we struggle to identify applicants who are prepared to enter the outdoor power equipment industry. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is a useful tool in identifying highly skilled employees who are prepared to enter the workforce, and we wish more young people were earning this certification.

As someone who has worked in the power equipment industry for many years, I am glad to know young people are earning the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Not only is this certification crucial to the success of the Kohler dealer network, it is also vital to the success of the countless industries supported by Kohler products. I encourage you to approve this certification at the state level in order to provide students with more career opportunities and support business and industry in your state.

Sincerely,

Michael Broetzmann
Manager - Technical Training,
Gasoline Engines
Kohler Engines
Michael.Broetzmann@kohler.com
May 30, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Greenway Equipment is a John Deere equipment dealership in Arkansas and Missouri. Greenway was incorporated in 1999. We currently have 28 locations and a corporate support center with about 640 active employees. Our company has a John Deere Ag Tech internship program in place where we begin employing students as young as sixteen to start on the job training at each of our 28 Greenway dealerships.

The Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification would be an asset to high school students interested in this program. This curriculum would coincide with the basics and the skills needed to get started in an Ag technician role. The certification would provide potential employees with the basic engine knowledge and skillset to complete services and repairs on small and potentially large equipment.

I am writing this letter in support of the Equipment & Engine Training Council Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. With these basic mechanical and engine skills in place, then we can advance employees much faster into larger ag and more complex jobs.

Sincerely,

Abby Powell
Human Resource Manager & Ag Tech Program Manager
apowell@gogreenway.com
870-351-5963
May 10, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to voice our support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and Professional Communications Certification in the preparation of students to be “Career Ready” when they enter the job market.

As President of the Schweizer RSG helicopter company, each of these two disciplines have important implications to our company and the aviation industry.

Our legacy company has been in business for 73 years and has manufactured thousands of piston and turbine powered helicopters for civil and military operators. Young employees who have a strong understanding of the 4-stroke engine, even in compact applications, will give them tools to be successful in our industry. The fundamentals of small engine operation carry over to turbine engine applications as the same principles of combustion engine operations apply.

Efficient and effective communication skills are paramount in the aviation industry. Whether the interaction is with governmental agencies such as the Federal Aviation Administration or the operators of our helicopters, I and other leaders in the aviation community, rely on our team members to have exceptional communication skills. The earlier in a young adult life one can master these important skills, the more productive and reliable they will be.

It is my desire that our regional school districts implement both of these important programs. Graduates of these programs are the young and contributing adults my company and the aviation industry require.

Respectfully,

David R Horton
President
May 15, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification endorsed by the Equipment & Engine Training Council.

I own and operate B&M Repair in Bellville, Texas. We retail and service Toro commercial and residential lawn equipment, as well as Echo brand lawn equipment and chainsaws. I also work very closely with the agriculture teachers in my school district.

Students who earn this certification have demonstrated that they have a mastery of concepts vital to succeeding in this industry, including:

- understand four-stroke engine operation
- define normal combustion and recognize reasons for abnormal combustion
- determine the purpose and type of various four-stroke engine components
- examine carburetors and carburetor functions
- understand various emission standards in small engines
- analyze components and component functions of ignition systems
- examine spark plugs and spark plug function
- understand mechanical governor function
- identify, select and properly operate, maintain and store small engine tools, parts and equipment
- demonstrate small gas engine disassembly, assembly, troubleshooting, repair, service and maintenance procedures

It is imperative we have a pipeline of skilled workers for current and future positions in the industry. A student that has earned the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification that is endorsed by a nationally recognized association such as EETC has proven that they are more qualified for employment in the agriculture industry than a candidate without the certification and is more likely to be employed. In addition, this certification is extremely valuable to employers as it helps connects us to qualified candidates and should be offered at all schools with courses in small engines.

Sincerely,

Bradley Hanath

Bradley Hanath
To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. As a professor of agricultural education at WTAMU, a university that is dedicated to preparing students for success in the marketplace after graduation, I see tremendous value in this certification.

By earning the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification, students will be more prepared to enter the workplace. Additionally, the certification will benefit consumers and employers by providing the outdoor power equipment industry with knowledgeable employees who are capable and ready to work. The outdoor power equipment industry is consistently in need of highly qualified employees, and this certification is key to developing a pipeline of skilled and passionate employees.

It is my hope more students will earn the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification to address the hiring needs of the outdoor power equipment industry and strengthen the industry as a whole.

Sincerely,

Kevin Williams, Ed.D.
Associate Prof. of Ag. Education
Department of Agricultural Sciences
West Texas A&M University
Canyon, Texas 79016
(806) 651-2555 office
kwilliams@wtamu.edu
May 1, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Student Certification endorsed by the Equipment & Engine Training Council.

I opened two Lawn and Garden dealerships in 1977 specializing in industrial equipment. 1992 I sold out and became the service and education director for Texas Outdoor Power Distributor in Georgetown, Texas. Products we represent are Echo, shindaiwa, Scag and Billy Goat. We have 1200 Sales and Servicing locations in 5 states. We employ 58 people with 4 in the service support department. We hold 38 field service training schools each year for our servicing dealers. The service staff @ Texas Outdoor Power holds EETC certifications in areas of Four Stroke, Two Stroke, Driveline/ Hydraulic, Compact Diesel and Electrical. Texas Outdoor Power is the largest US testing center for new product development designs and testing for Japan and US manufactured products.

I am involved in teaching Votec teacher’s latest product design changes and new EPA engines with Trouble Shooting and Failure Analysis programs give students a competitive edge and job placement. Our Lawn and Garden dealerships are in short supply for good technicians therefore we rely on educated and EETC certified students to fill the demands of our industry.

Students who earn this student certification demonstrate that they have a mastery of concepts vital to succeeding in this industry, including:

- understand four-stroke engine operation
- define normal combustion and recognize reasons for abnormal combustion
- determine the purpose and type of various four-stroke engine components
- examine carburetors and carburetor functions
- analyze components and component functions of ignition systems
- examine spark plugs and spark plug function
- understand mechanical governor function
- demonstrate small gas engine disassembly, assembly, troubleshooting, repair, service and maintenance procedures

It is imperative we have a pipeline of skilled workers for current and future positions in the industry. A student that has earned the Principles of Small Engine Technology Student Certification that is endorsed by a nationally recognized association such as EETC has proven that they are more qualified for employment in the agriculture industry than a candidate without a certification and is more likely to be employed.

In addition, this student certification is an important first step to employers as it helps connects us to qualified candidates and should be offered at all schools with courses in small engines.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
February 7, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

The Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association (OPEESA) recognizes that there is a serious shortage of qualified technicians. One way this can be alleviated is by training new people in small engine technology. The Equipment and Engine Training Council's "Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification" program ensures that the ongoing need for qualified employees can be met.

OPEESA is a trade association of wholesale distributors and manufacturers in the outdoor power equipment industry. At every event where our members gather a major topic of conversation is how do we encourage more people, young and old, to learn about the industry. Providing the opportunity for entry level certification in your schools would be a major benefit and a good beginning in filling some of the jobs we currently have available.

I would respectfully ask that you approve this certification at the state level in order to provide students with career opportunities while at the same time supporting businesses and industries in your state.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Nancy Cuéroni
Executive Director
May 13, 2018

I am writing this letter in support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and Professional Communications Certification in preparation for students to be career ready when reaching the job market.

As Vice President of Native Energy Solutions, we know the importance and value of students who have been certified in the electrical power field, and in the areas of effectively communicating skills in the work environment. They are more career and safety oriented and make better employees.

Native Energy Solutions has been in business for 12 years and has branch offices in West Texas, Oklahoma, and North Dakota providing electrical installation, repair, and maintenance in the oilfield. Our customers demand knowledgeable and safe electricians. Without communication skills in the workplace, the objectives of the company and customers could not be met.

I hope that regional school districts will continue to provide these vital courses in work skills and professional communication to better prepare students that enter the workplace.

Respectfully,

Tom Owens
Vice President
Native Energy Solutions, LLC
To Whom it May concern:

I am writing this letter to voice our support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and Professional Communications Certification in the preparation for students to be more career ready when reaching the job market.

As Vice President of Amigo Power Equipment, I have experienced firsthand the importance and value of students who have taken the step through educational certification, to be more career ready and in tune to the expectations of their prospective employers. Amigo Power Equipment has been in business for 44 years serving South Texas in Ag, Outdoor Power, and Power sports equipment sales and service. All of these areas demand knowledgeable small engine techs, and due to our direct relationship to retail customers, employees with good communication skills. Through the years we have hired dozens of employees. Some with certification and most without. Our experience has proven applicants that have recognized certification come with a much higher value than those that do not.

It is my hope that our regional school districts will consider implementing a program that will provide students an avenue to obtain certifications recognized by industry, that will help them secure employment in related fields that are beneficial to them and companies like ours.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

J.P. English
Vice President

05/03/2018
To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to voice my opinion and support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and Professional Communications Certification in the preparation for students to be more career ready when reaching the job market.

As President of Dugan/Stone Trailer Co., I have experienced firsthand the importance and value of students who have taken steps to complete educational certification, to be more career ready and in tune to the expectations of their prospective employers. Dugan/Stone Trailer Co. has been in business for almost two years, but my grandfather ran this business for over fifty years providing a well-built gooseneck cattle trailer for cattlemen all over the United States and overseas. Our company has provided excellent customer sales and service. These areas demand knowledgeable small engine techs, and due to our direct relationship to retail customers, employees with good communication skills. Through the years this company has hired dozens of employees. Some with certification and most without. My experience has proven applicants that have recognized certification come with a much higher value than those that do not.

It is my hope that our regional school districts will consider implementing a program that will provide students an avenue to obtain certifications recognized by industry, that will help them secure employment in related fields that are beneficial to them and companies like mine.

Respectfully,

Blake Stone
President

05/09/2018
To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification endorsed by Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC).

Students who earn this certification have demonstrated that they have a mastery of concepts vital to succeeding in this industry, they are willing to go the extra mile and are more prepared for a successful career in the real world. Students need as many tools in their toolbox as they can achieve as they face greater and greater competition.

It is imperative we have a pipeline of skilled workers for current and future positions in the industry. A student successfully completing the Small Engine Technology Certification endorsed by a nationally recognized association such as EETC has proven that they are more qualified for employment in any industry dealing with any kind of engine than a student without the certification. In turn, they are more likely to be employed. In addition, this is extremely valuable to employers as it helps to connect us to qualified candidates. Any appropriate CEV certification should be offered at all schools with courses in small engines and/or automobiles.

[Signature]

[Prime 1 Car Care]
[Owner]
May 10, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

As CEO of Workforce Solutions South Plains, I am always seeking partnerships and organizations with the likeminded vision of a trained and educated workforce that is able to support themselves and their families. CEV Multimedia’s twelve professional certifications offered in school districts in the South Plains area is aligned with our shared vision of the South Plains future workforce. A skilled workforce pipeline that begins with our youth is vital to our region’s future economic prosperity. I believe that each of the twelve certifications CEV Multimedia offers provides our youth with valuable skills that translate directly to their future career success. For this reason, I respectfully encourage you to consider TEA recognition of each of CEV Multimedia’s certifications. Workforce Solutions South Plains proudly supports our youth and advocates for their career success and for the economic prosperity of the South Plains region.

Thank you in advance for your support of this project and for helping youth across Texas reach their career goals!

Sincerely,

Martin Aguirre,
Chief Executive Officer,
Workforce Solutions South Plains
May 15th, 2018

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to express my support of the Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and Professional Communications Certifications Certificate in the preparation for students to be more career ready when reaching the job market.

As a former Trustee for the Lubbock Independent School District, current City Councilman for the City of Lubbock and small business owner, I understand the importance and value of students who have taken this step through educational certification, to be more career ready and prepared for future employment.

Building a skilled workforce is the single most important thing we can do to extend the life of the robust economy we all benefit from. The skill we require from our future workforce begins in our public school districts.

I hope that our school districts will provide our students an opportunity to obtain certifications recognized by industry, that assist them in gaining employment in their respective fields.

Sincerely,

Steve Massengale
CEO

advancedgraphix.net
520 23rd St.
806-744-9998
July 8, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

Heritage Agriculture of Arkansas is a family owned, seven store complex operating in Northeast, Central, and Southeast Arkansas. There are currently approximately 120 employees total at all locations. We have been serving farmers of Arkansas and surrounding states since 1966.

I am writing this letter in support of The Equipment & Engine Training Council Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. The success of our business depends on the proper maintenance of equipment at all time.

High school students who earn the Small Engine Technology Certification gain mastery and skills in the core concepts essential for becoming an outdoor power equipment technician, including:

- Four stroke engine operation
- Analyzing engine systems and engine components
- Engine disassembly and reassembly
- Troubleshooting, service and repair

Students with a basic understanding of these skills will allow us to connect with more qualified candidates. Having employees already familiar with the job description will save the industry time and money. It will allow the employee the opportunity to advance at a quicker pace. These students will be a step ahead and will no doubt help raise the level of qualified employees.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mike Linton
Dealer Principal
Heritage Agriculture of Arkansas