

Engine & Equipment Training Council

Bruce Tallman
Executive
Director
344 Oak Grove Rd
Kings Mountain, NC
28086
888-406-1810
eetc@eetc.org



June 13, 2025

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Tallman".

Bruce Tallman
Executive Director
Equipment & Engine Training Council



PRECISION WORK, INC. DISTRIBUTORS OF QUALITY LAWN CARE EQUIPMENT

75 Harbor Road • Port Washington, NY 11050 • T. 516-883-2002 • F. 516-883-1400 • www.precisionworkinc.com

April 28, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jeffrey Plotka, and I am the president of Precision Work Inc. I am writing in strong support of the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Precision Work Inc. is a regional distributor of quality lawn care equipment. We work in thirteen states throughout the Northeast and Midwest. Precision Work Inc. is continually working to be an industry leader.

Our mission is to provide our customers with the highest quality products, services, and support possible. Our business is based on a determination to keep our company, its employees, and its customers as a circle of "Family and Friends." We believe these concepts of quality, loyalty, and friendship set Precision Work Inc. apart and will ensure continued success. The perfect employee to help the company to fulfill our mission has the skills and knowledge that the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology provides. It is difficult to hire qualified individuals who can provide the quality experience we are looking to provide our customers.

With my experience here at Precision Work Inc., I have seen firsthand just how important it is to hire individuals who know how to service and maintain small engine equipment. I have also seen how helpful it is for our company to hire individuals who do not need training in this before coming to join the team. Here at Precision Work Inc., we employ nineteen employees, and our team prides itself on the ability for any member of our office staff to answer your call and be able to assist you with any questions or customer service issues you may have. Our service department consists of a team with over 30 years of experience, and we are always looking for qualified individuals who can demonstrate knowledge in service calls. As the President of Precision Works Inc., I can confidently say that individuals who obtain the EETC Principle of Small Engine Technology will have the skills desired by my company and will have the skills to be successful in the industry. As a member of EETC, I know that hiring individuals with these skills is not only a priority for Precision Work Inc. but a priority across the industry.

Companies such as Precision Work Inc. rely on future employees to be highly qualified and capable of entering the industry at a fast pace and already have the skills and knowledge required. This is why I strongly encourage this certification to be made easily available to individuals to ensure that post-graduation, they are qualified to enter high-demand roles within this industry.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Plotka
President





9 November 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Blair Coates, and I am writing in support of the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification on behalf of Coates Landscape Supply.

What is now Coates Landscape Supply, began as a landscape company in Phoenix, Arizona back in 1984. Now, it has evolved into a multi-state landscape equipment distribution source focusing on Walker Mowers, EcoLawn large material spreaders, Spyker fertilizer spreaders. We have expanded across parts of the West and have a solid presence throughout Idaho, Western Wyoming, Oregon, Washington; and most recently, Utah. In addition to distribution, we are a full service power equipment repair training facility. EETC is part of our hands on practical curriculum.

Because I have deep roots in the landscape services sector, I have witnessed firsthand how important it is to hire individuals who have been properly trained on how to use, maintain, repair, and service outdoor power equipment. Individuals who are interested in pursuing a career within the machinery and equipment industry should possess the knowledge and skills tested for by the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. The Equipment & Engine Training Council is trusted by manufacturers, distributors, dealers across the Nation. I fully trust EETC as a certifying body because they are preparing the way for more students to be exposed to current industry standards.

Companies like Coates Landscape Supply rely on the next generation of our workforce to be qualified and capable of entering our line of work. Therefore, I encourage this certification to be made more readily available so that graduates are qualified to enter high-demand roles within the industry.

Sincerely,
Blair Coates
Blair Coates

President
Coates Landscape Supply



Columbus • Boston • Jacksonville • Greensboro • Memphis

July 12, 2022

To Whom This May Concern,

This letter is an endorsement of the Equipment & Engine Training Council EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

Gardner, Inc. is a 75-year-old power equipment and parts distributor headquartered in Columbus, OH. In addition to this facility and distribution center we have locations in: Boston MA, Greensboro NC, Memphis TN, Jacksonville FL.

The breadth of our vendor portfolio is well over 50 manufacturers and growing. Some of our most notable lines include: BCS, Cub Cadet, DeWalt, Simpson, Generac, Husqvarna, Hydro-Gear, Kohler, MTD, Oregon Tool, Ridged, Ryobi, Troy-Bilt, Tuff Torq and WorldLawn. Our distribution spans across the US. In addition to selling fine products, we are responsible for the training and educating our business partners. As the conduit from the manufacturer to the retailer, we offer; annual on site update schools, web-based training, technical bulletins, and a multitude of support efforts for the manufacturers we represent.

Corporately, ***we strongly support EETC.*** Gardner is a proud EETC Member and over the past years Gardner Associates have served as board members and one as a past EETC President. In an industry with the average age employee continually ascending effective training provided by the EETC is invaluable to ready the next generation of technicians. As the OPE industry quickly gravitates to more advanced drive systems including fuel injection, lithium powered products and robotics, training is needed more than ever before. Gardner's dedicated technical and training staff assist customers with everything from product trouble shooting to parts lookup. Additionally, our technical staff has completed EETC certification and training. When seeking supplemental employees and technicians, the EETC accreditation is a huge asset. A certification on a student's resume makes them more likely to secure an interview or a position with our company.

Our industry is suffering a significant shortage of qualified technicians throughout the country. Proper training is integral for continued growth. Gardner is a proponent of the EETC as they provide a vital role in preparing for the future, not only in furnishing service but also in equipping people for lifelong careers making way for good paying professions.

I personally have been in the OPE industry for nearly 30 years. With the advances in technology the demand for training is the highest it has ever been! The EETC comprehensive training and service yields a bright future for the industry.

Kindest Regards,

Daryl Glover
Technical Services & Education Manager

Gardner Columbus

3641 Interchange Road
Columbus, OH 43204

Gardner Boston

125 Constitution Boulevard
Franklin, MA 02038

Gardner Jacksonville

12740 Kenan Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32258

Gardner Greensboro

5920 Summit Avenue
Browns Summit, NC 27214

Gardner Memphis

11531 Gulf Stream Drive
Arlington, TN 38002



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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Broetzmann". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "M" and a cursive "Broetzmann".

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



JIMMY PARNELL
PRESIDENT

December 15, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

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

My name is Carla Hornady, and I serve as the Cotton, Soybean, and Wheat and Feed Grain Division Director for the Alabama Farmers Federation (AFF). AFF is Alabama's largest farm organization comprised of and representing agricultural and associate members in all 67 Alabama counties. We strive to protect and improve the ability of farmers engaged in production agriculture to provide a reliable supply of food through responsible stewardship of Alabama's resources.

AFF recognizes that students should be exposed to basic knowledge and skills necessary to troubleshoot, repair, service, and maintain 4-stroke small engines. Students who earn the certification are more qualified and prepared to enter high-demand roles within the industry. Additionally, the certification allows employers to identify and connect with more skilled candidates, filling gaps in the labor market and jump-starting students' careers.

Workforce readiness is essential to occupations that involve outdoor power equipment because experience and prior training is often a requirement to land an entry-level job within the industry. This certification was created by EETC, a trusted organization that has great success in preparing students to become world-class technicians. Those who earn this certification benefit the agriculture sector of Alabama because agriculturalists rely on equipment used on their farm, this includes a range of machinery necessary to operate any type of farm operation. ALFA fully supports the approval and implementation of the EETC Principles of Small Engines Technology Certification into schools across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carla Hornady".

Carla Hornady

Cotton, Soybean, and Wheat and Feed Grain Division Director
Alabama Farmers Federation





412 South Van Buren Street, Post Office Box 368, Weiner, Arkansas

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abby Powell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

HERITAGE AGRICULTURE
of Arkansas



1421 West Park
Carlisle, AR 72024
Phone: (870) 552-7557
Fax: (870) 552-3493
www.heritageag.net

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 componets
- 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,

Mike Linton

Dealer Principal

Heritage Agriculture of Arkansas



November 17, 2021

To whom it may concern,

This letter is written in support of the Equipment & Engine Training Council EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

I am Ray Carter, Technical Support Manager and Warranty Administrator for Gardner Inc. Gardner Inc. is a 75-year-old parts distributor based out of Columbus, OH with locations in Columbus OH, Boston MA, Greensboro NC, Memphis TN, and Jacksonville FL.

We distribute parts and whole goods for over 40 lines of power equipment including but not limited to: Ardisam, Cub Cadet, DeWalt, FNA, Generac, Husqvarna, Hydro-Gear, Karcher, Kohler, MTD, Oregon, Ridged, Ryobi, Troy-Bilt, Tuff Torq and World Lawn. Our territory for distribution covers all the USA. We are also responsible for the training and education aspect of the business providing yearly update schools for dealers along with web-based training, technical bulletins, whatever is needed to support the manufacturers we represent.

We as a company support EETC as a member and over the past years we have employees that have been board members and a past President of the EETC. In an industry where the average age of the employee has continually moved up the training provided by the EETC is invaluable to train the next generation of technicians. As the OPE industry quickly moves to more advanced drive systems including fuel injection, lithium powered products and robotics, training is needed more than ever before.

We employee a dedicated technical and training staff to assist our customer base with everything from product trouble shooting to parts lookup. Our technical staff has been thru EETC certification and training. When looking for additional employees and technicians to see that someone is EETC certified on a resume is a huge plus.

As noted, we distribute for the entire USA with our core business territory being east of the Mississippi river. Presently there is a shortage of qualified technicians though out the entire territory. The need for proper training is great and we as a company strongly encourage every state to support the EETC as they fill a vital role in preparing for the future, not only in providing service but also in training people for lifelong careers and good paying jobs.

I personally have been in the OPE industry for over 27 years. With the advances in technology the need for training is the highest it has ever been and to know that the EETC is providing this training provides a bright future for the industry.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Carter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Ray Carter

Gardner Inc, Technical Support Manager/Warranty Administrator



Nevada Farm Bureau Federation

2165 Green Vista Dr., Suite 205, Sparks, NV 89431

Phone: (775) 674-4000 or Toll-Free (800) 992-1106

August 16, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

Nevada Farm Bureau is the largest agricultural organization in Nevada, representing farm and ranch families throughout the state. We are pleased to offer our endorsement for the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification

As a statewide organization that's mission is to be the voice of Nevada's agriculture, we see the importance of this certification. At Nevada Farm Bureau Federation, we work to promote, preserve, protect, and resolve challenges in agriculture through advocacy, education, and leadership. This certification directly lines with our values seeing as it provides proper education in the outdoor power industry. With industry standards developed by the Equipment & Engine Training Council, I can be sure that the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is relevant to the outdoor power industry.

I believe this certification will provide individuals with the skills needed to enter the outdoor power industry with confidence and succeed. Earners of this certification will be much more qualified than those who do not hold this certification. I would absolutely consider an individual who holds the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification for an interview or job with Nevada Farm Bureau Federation. I know that earners are dedicated to their work, willing to step outside of their comfort zone, and overall well-rounded individuals. I look for this in all employees and feel confident that earners will have all of these skills.

Agriculture is an extremely technical and wide-ranging industry. Those who have earned the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification have demonstrated that they come to you with qualified expertise.

Sincerely,

Doug Busselman

Executive Vice President

Capp Hoppes
PO Box 37
Hagerman, NM 88232

March 29, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Capp Hoppes, I am a senior at Hagerman High School in Hagerman, NM. I am writing this letter in support of the EETC Principles of Small Gas Engine Technology certification that I earned as a student Ms. Dennis's ag classes during the Spring 2021 semester.

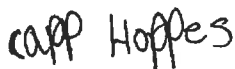
Earning this certification has been quite an accomplishment for me. I have always been interested in working on engines, beginning a young boy working alongside my dad in his mechanic's garage. Later on, as my skills developed, I became quite skilled at lawn mower and small engine repair. When Ms. Dennis offered me the opportunity to complete this certification while our classes were closed to in person learning due to COVID-19, I jumped at the chance. The material covered in the certification program deepened my understanding of the concepts and refined ideas that I already had.

This opportunity has been very valuable to me personally and professionally. Not only do I have an industry recognized certification that I can highlight on my resume, but this is something that I can use to build my reputation as a mechanic. The certification is on display in the family's repair shop.

Currently I am employed by the Tate Branch Dodge dealership in Artesia, NM as a diesel technician. Upon my graduation later this year, I plan to attend Western Technical College in El Paso, Texas. My long-term goals are to continue building a career in the automotive industry.

This certification is something that I can be proud of and I look to as an beginning step toward my lifelong goals. I appreciate having the opportunity to learn more about something that I am passionate about, I hope other students will be able to have the same opportunity in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Capp Hoppes". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Capp Hoppes



HAGERMAN MID/HIGH SCHOOL

406 N Cambridge, Drawer B

Hagerman, NM 88232

Phone: (505) 752-3283 / 752-2002 Fax: (505) 752-3306

Ag Shop Direct Line: 575-752-4332

Codi Montes-Dennis

Agriculture

FFA Advisor

cmontes@bobcat.net

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the Agricultural Education instructor and FFA Advisor for Hagerman Municipal Schools. Our program consists of classes for students in grades 7 through 12. The curriculum is comprehensive in nature, and we are a small rural school, located in a farming community. Many of our students will go directly from school to the workforce. Having the ability for students to earn industry recognized credentials while in high school is a great benefit to their education.

During the COVID-19 pandemic we were faced with many challenges in education. One of which was how to continue to help students reach their educational and career goals while engaged in remote learning. A specific example I can cite of how ICEV and the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification helped with this is related a young man who has been my program for several years. Early on this young man identified mechanics as being a career interest to him and he has based a major part of his Supervised Agricultural Experience program on this pathway. During the period of remote learning, this student took the opportunity to earn the certification, which he then used to seek parttime employment at local car dealership in the service and repair department. This job has opened many doors for him including an offer to attend diesel mechanic school and return to the dealership for fulltime employment after his graduation from high school this spring.

During my career, I have had many students unsure of what career pathway they were interested in, nor did they have an opportunity to gain skills in an interest area to gauge their long-term interests. The certification programs offered through ICEV allow students to do just that. They are increasing their technical knowledge and gaining valuable skills that can be used to enter the workforce.

These types of credentials provide New Mexico's students a great opportunity for future success. In an state that struggles with labor shortages, and underqualified, unprepared workers we need to do all that we can to prepare students for the workforce. Career Technical Education is a key component of this process and industrial recognized credentialing gives our students an advantage. I strongly encourage the approval of this certification and all others we can offer to our students.

Sincerely,

Codi Montes-Dennis



*3375 Youngstown Road, SE
Warren, Ohio 44484
330-369-2345 ext. 103 phone 330-369-8805 fax*

May 19, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Lisa Terzigni- Miller and I am the President of Do-Cut Sales & Service, Inc and Power Equipment Warehouse. I am writing in support of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

As a business owner in the outdoor power equipment industry, I can see the need for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. This certification is based on industry standards to allow individuals to prove their knowledge in the outdoor power equipment industry. Some of the industry standards for tested in this certification include:

- Engine components & operations overview
- Disassembly and assembly procedures
- Tools, parts, & equipment identification and management
- Basic troubleshooting, repair, service, & maintenance procedures

The outdoor power equipment industry will benefit from the approval of this certification as it allows highly qualified and skilled students to enter the industry with the essential knowledge that they will need to succeed. Finding these qualified and skilled workers is becoming more of a challenge because it is difficult to locate employees who meet the entry-level qualifications for the field. I believe that any individual who has this certification would be a great fit for a job and would go at the top of my list. Additionally, the approval of this certification would allow employers to easily locate and connect with those who do hold the certification.

I fully support the state of Ohio to approve the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. This certification will greatly benefit Ohio students, businesses, and customers and should be made accessible to the students who will one day be coming into the outdoor power equipment industry.

Sincerely,

Lisa M. Miller

Lisa M. Miller
President

American Pride Power Equipment
700 McIntire Ave
Zanesville, OH 43701
740-454-7224

March 15, 2022

To whom it may concern:

My name is Ryan Dodson, President of American Pride Power Equipment, Inc. located in Zanesville, Ohio. I am writing this letter to encourage approval of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

I have been involved with the outdoor power equipment industry for 34 years. There is a critical shortage of qualified and trained technicians in our industry. This is why I see value in the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification becoming available for Ohio high school students. The skills tested by this certification are important for our industry, and my business. Core competencies in engine repair such as disassembly, troubleshooting, and reassembly of small engines are exactly the kinds of skills we look for in our technician candidates.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is a needed tool for the upcoming generation of employees and business owners in our industry. I believe the skills and knowledge gained from this certification will help students be more equipped for a related career and help our state's businesses locate trained and hard-working employees. I strongly encourage the Ohio department of education to approve the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan G. Dodson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ryan G. Dodson
President
American Pride Power Equipment

Beckert's Outdoor Power Equipment

1527 W Main St
Zanesville, Ohio 43701
740-212-5079

March 18, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to show my support for the approval of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. My name is Fred Beckert and I am the owner of Beckert's Outdoor Power Equipment located in Zanesville, Ohio. We retail and service outdoor power equipment such as lawnmowers, chainsaws, trimmers, blowers, and zero turn mowers.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is something I believe our Ohio high school students should have access to as it will help them in their future job searches and careers. The standards covered by this certification are important for our state's industry and future employees. I am especially happy to see the following standards are verified by the certification: basic troubleshooting, repair, disassembly procedures tools, part and equipment, identification and management.

Ohio businesses that are a part of the outdoor power industry will benefit from the approval of this certification because it will grow the availability of knowledgeable young employees. Personally, I look forward to seeing this certification on future job applications in my area. I support the department of education in approving the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification for Ohio students. This certification will benefit future employees, businesses, and customers of our industry. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Beckert", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Fred Beckert
Owner



24654 St. Rt. 34 • Stryker, OH 43557
Phone: (419) 428-3114 or 888-428-3114
Fax: (419) 428-2118
www.buehrerpowerequipment.com

Proud Member of



May 16, 2022

To Whom it May Concern,

I am writing this letter to show my support for the approval of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. My name is Rick Buehrer and I am the Major Owner, President, and General Manager of Buehrer Power Equipment, Inc. in Stryker, OH. At Buehrer Power Equipment, we retail and service outdoor power equipment (OPE) such as string trimmers, chain saws, snow blowers, all types of lawn mowers and other OPE equipment. We strive to provide quality products and services with the highest ethical standards and integrity.

I believe that the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification will greatly benefit our Ohio high school students. This certification gives students the opportunity to prove their knowledge and understanding on industry standards that will lead them into being valuable as a future employee. Some of these industry standards include repair, disassembly & assembly procedures, part & equipment identification and basic troubleshooting.

Businesses in Ohio that are a part of the OPE industry will benefit greatly from the approval of this certification. I personally am excited to see the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology certification approved. This is because we need more students in Ohio who are both qualified and eager to enter the OPE field. Additionally, the approval of this certification will make it easier for employers to connect with students about potential job opportunities.

I look forward to seeing this certification on future job applications in Northwest Ohio. I fully support the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology certification and urge the state of Ohio to approve it. This certification will not only be a benefit for students and future employees, but also customers and businesses within the OPE industry.

Sincerely,

Rick Buehrer

Major Owner, President & General Manager

Buehrer Power Equipment, Inc.

SINCE 1955 - WE HAVE NEVER LIVED ON OUR REPUTATION - WE BUILT IT



December 21, 2021

To whom it may concern:

My name is Lucas Zaharewicz and I am the owner of Lucas' Small Engine Repair Shop in Willowick, Ohio. I am writing this letter in support of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Please consider approval to help more Ohio students jump-start their careers in the outdoor power equipment industry and graduate with this earned certification.

As a small business owner in the outdoor power equipment industry, I am impressed by the standards covered in this certification. Students with goals to own and operate their own engine or equipment repair business would benefit greatly by earning this certification because it verifies they have the knowledge and skills necessary to troubleshoot, repair, service, and maintain 4-stroke small engines. This certification also helps students have an advantage as they apply for in-demand jobs within the industry because they will already be proficient in parts identification, disassembly and assembly procedures, and much more.

In my line of work, it is important I have a vast knowledge of engine operations and components and great work ethic in order to grow and sustain my business. This type of certification will go a long way for Ohio students who one day will own and operate businesses like mine. I attest that the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is needed for our industry's growth, and I hope to see this certification approved by the state of Ohio.

Sincerely,



Lucas Zaharewicz - Owner

Giacco's Mower Shop
20690 Lorain Rd.
Fairview Park, OH 44126
440-333-4980



February 11, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. My name is Jason Giacco and I am the owner of Giacco's Mower Shop. It is a small family business that has been running for about 26 years and counting. We are proud to service lawn equipment all over Ohio.

As a business owner in the outdoor power equipment industry, I see value in the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. I value the standards of assembly procedures and basic troubleshooting, repair, service and maintenance procedures because they give technicians a jump start into the field.

The outdoor power equipment industry will benefit from the approval of this certification as more students will enter the industry with essential knowledge and skills. It's becoming more of a challenge to find skilled small engine technicians because it's more difficult to locate employees who meet the entry-level qualifications for the field. Anyone with this certification would go to the top of my list.

I truly support the state approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Ohio students and businesses like mine will benefit from this certification being accessible to the future job seekers within our local high schools and career technical centers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J Giacco", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Jason Giacco- Owner



Red Barn Sales and Service
S440 State Route 109
Liberty Center, OH 43532

Phone (419) 533-6208
kds@redbarnsalesandservice.com

To Whom it my Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification.

I am Kevin Sonnenberg, Manager of the Red Barn Outdoor Equipment in Liberty Center, Ohio. As manager of the store one of my responsibilities is to train, hire, and work with new employees. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification would make it much easier to accomplish my job if a new hire had this certification. This would verify that the individual has achieved employability within the mechanical field and would have the right background for our repair shop. I plan to contact the local agriculture instructors and the local career center to have them send any individual that has this certification my way.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology certification are what we need so that the entry-level individuals will have the mechanical background to be successful.

It is awesome to learn that there is another tool to help identify individuals who are career ready and want to make a mark in this industry. Personally, I would have been excited to have earned the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certificate issued by a nationally recognized training council. As an implement repair business, we will be requiring students from our local FFA programs and local career centers to bring their certification for employment. Collaborating with a trainee that has this certification will speed the learning of his or her job so they can be more productive. This certification will help us identify the individuals that have a desire and focus to make our business more successful. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification needs approved by the Ohio Department of Education to fill the many job openings in our shop as well as many others across the states.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Kevin Sonnenberg".

Kevin Sonnenberg,

Napoleon, Ohio 43545

Sohar's All Season Mower Service

600 Highland Rd. E
Macedonia, OH 44056
330-467-1332

February 21, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to show my support for the state approval of the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. My name is Pete Sohar and I am the service manager of Sohar's All Season Mower Service. We are one of the largest outdoor power equipment dealers in northeast Ohio with millions of dollars of equipment and parts inventory. We are open to the public and our customers include homeowners, landscapers, construction, businesses, schools, universities and government agencies. No purchase is too big or too small.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology is an excellent tool for today's high school students to access and earn. From my experience, I see great value in the following standards: Building the fundamentals of how machinery works from basic engine theory to advanced electrical and hydraulic designs. EETC enforces the comprehension of engine technology.

Ohio businesses, like ours, will benefit from the approval of this certification because it will increase the number of knowledgeable entry level employees. This training is a steppingstone into the transition into working on outdoor power equipment. Understanding how something works makes diagnosis of failures quicker, and locating proper parts that much quicker. Knowing what a camshaft is and not having to call it a "doohickey" makes communication that much easier.

I encourage the department of education to approve the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. This certification will benefit Ohio students, businesses, and customers of our industry. I look forward to seeing this certification on future resumes and as an available state-wide resource.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Sohar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Peter Sohar
Service Manager
Sohars All Season Mower Service, Inc.

01/28/2022

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Brian Thomas, and I am a Lead Trainer and Developer for Stanley Black & Decker (SBD) Outdoor Division, formally known as MTD Products Inc. SBD Outdoor Division is known for innovative and award-winning lawn mowers, snow blowers, trimmers, and outdoor power equipment for both residential and commercial markets. The SBD Outdoor Division family of brands includes Cub Cadet®, Troy-Bilt®, Robomow®, Rover®, and WOLF-Garten®. The SBD Outdoor Division has over 8,100 employees and facilities all over the globe.

I serve as a member of the board of directors of the Equipment and Engine Training Council, and I write this letter in support of EETC's entry-level certification: EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology. One of our primary concerns as a governing body is promoting our industry through certification: the act of demonstrating career-readiness. Our entry-level certification is key to our certification programs, because it captures people while they're young and making life-changing career choices. Because of this, I, as a tenured professional in this industry, would like to see this certification as readily available as possible to as many career and technical education students as possible.

Having this certification on a resume makes a person eligible for an entry-level job in our field, which can lead to a stable, rewarding career. And do we need technicians more than ever! The certification tests over industry-standard equipment and covers troubleshoot, repair, service, and maintenance. Jobs for small engine mechanics are steadily increasing in quantity.

We would benefit greatly from more certified people in our home state, so to see more Ohio high school graduates adding an EETC Certification to their high school diploma soon would be fantastic. We need them, and they will have an opportunity to go to work immediately.

Sincerely,

Brian Thomas

Brian Thomas
Lead Trainer and Developer



July 29, 2020

To whom it may concern:

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

We are a retail and servicing dealer for: Cub Cadet, Kohler and Briggs and Stratton. We provide small engine repair and equipment leasing services to Knoxville and Nashville Tennessee. With the consistent need of our services it is harder and harder to find qualified people to serve as small engine mechanics.

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.

Respectfully,

Jim Falletti
Mower Genius LLC



5943 Commerce Blvd. Morristown, TN 37814
Tel: 423.585.2000 | Fax: 423.585.2003
www.tufftorq.com

August 11, 2020

To whom it may concern,

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

My name is Derrick L. Dalton, and I am the Aftermarket Business Development Representative for Technical Training of Drivetrain Components and Transaxles at Tuff Torq Corporation located in Morristown, TN.

In my role, I am responsible for all technical training and certification programs for Tuff Torq products Global Distribution network, which includes distributors and dealers in the United States and all around the world. Our Tuff Torq Global Distributor's service and support equipment used in the market that include Lawn & Garden, Agriculture & Construction, Off Highway, Snow and Marine Gear.

At Tuff Torq, we want to be a valuable partner with our OEM customers as they develop the next great products for their customers. We strive to not only provide the best products for their applications, but also to partner with them in their research and development for the future of our industry. "Our mission is to provide a secure future for our employees and benefit the community and the environment, while providing the highest value of off-highway powertrain solutions in the world to our customers."

The Outdoor Power Equipment Distributors and Dealers that service our products are always looking for value when hiring Tech Associates. Tuff Torq feels the students that participate in programs within EETC will be more experienced and better assets to Dealerships when it is time to enter the workforce. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is a valuable tool in training and honing these young student's skills prior to entering the workforce. This program gives the students the hands-on experience they need to be prepared for a successful future and we aim to support the EETC and see more young students earning this certification.

I have worked in the Outdoor Power Equipment Industry for over 20 years and I'm glad to see young students earning the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Not only is this certification crucial to the success of the Tuff Torq Dealer network, it is also vital to the success of the industries supported by our Products. I encourage you to approve this certification at the state level to provide students with more career opportunities that support businesses and industries within your state.

Sincerely,

Derrick L. Dalton

Derrick L. Dalton

Tuff Torq Corporation, Aftermarket Business Development

White Bluff Ace Hardware
2010 Hwy 47N
White Bluff, TN 37187
615-797-4100

To whom it may concern:

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

We are a retail and servicing dealer for: Toro, Kohler, Briggs and Stratton, Kawasaki, and Echo.

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 public-school districts will continue to provide these vital courses in skilled trades to better prepare students that enter the workplace.

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 is more qualified for employment in our industry than a candidate without the certification and is more likely to be employed. In addition, this certification is extremely valuable to employers like me as it helps connect us to qualified candidates and should be offered at all schools in Tennessee with courses in small engines.

Respectfully,



Cindy Dawson
owner/manager



304 W. Monte Cristo • Edinburg, Texas 78541 • Office: 956-383-6289 • Fax: 956-383-0787

DIV. OF AMIGO IMPLEMENT CO., INC.

E-mail: amigoimp99@aol.com • www.amigoimplement.com • www.go-polaris.com/amigo/

Kent C. Johnson
President

J.P. English, Jr.
Vice President

Janice N. Johnson
Sec./Treasurer

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.P. English", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and fluid.

J.P. English
Vice President

05/03/2018

**B & M Repair
6794 Hwy. 36 N.
Bellville, TX 77418
979-865-2155**

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.

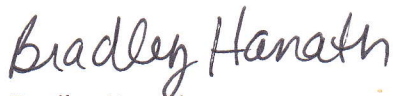
I own and operate B&M Repair in Bellville, Texas. We retail and service Toro commercial and residential lawn equipment, as well as Echo brand lawn equipment and chainsaws. I also work very closely with the agriculture teachers in my school district.

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



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



May 10th, 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.

My name is Mike Broetzmann and I am the Lead Service Training Specialist for 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, 700 of which are in Texas. 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. All of which have substantial presence in Texas economy.

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

It is crucial we develop 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 and prepared for stepping into high demand roles in our industry. 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. Building and supporting school programs that offer this skillset is crucial to the success of not only the Kohler dealer network, but the industries supported by our products.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Broetzmann", written over a horizontal line.

Michael Broetzmann
Lead Service Training Specialist
Michael.Broetzmann@kohler.com



4620 102nd Street
Lubbock, Texas 79424
806-559-8556

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



Schweizer RSG, LLC
3901 N. Main St., Hangar 2S
Fort Worth, TX 76106
Phone : 817-405-2100
Fax : 817-625-0195

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 of each 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 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,



West Texas A&M University™

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

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



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 fulfilling 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,



Nancy Cueroni
Executive Director



August 1, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. As a landscape designer for ProGreen Turf and Landscaping, I fully recognize this certification's potential to create a pipeline of prepared workers for our industry and ProGreen Turf and Landscaping. Our vision is to be known as the Coastal Carolina industry leader in customer service, professionalism, and the highest quality landscape installation and management. As a result of our dedication, homeowners and business owners everywhere can spend more time enjoying their space and less time maintaining it.

There is a lot to the world of outdoor power equipment. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification gives individuals base-level knowledge of the small engines industry. Earners of this certification are more than prepared for entry-level jobs at companies like ProGreen Turf and Landscaping since earners are skilled in the equipment we use.

As an employer, I can assure you that a resume with the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification will stand out to me as I consider applicants for interviews and jobs. Since the information individuals must learn to earn this meticulous certification is based on industry values and standards, we know that any individual with the certification will be well-versed in all topics related to power equipment. I also know the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification earners are trainable, willing to go the extra mile, and need less upfront training and preparation to start the job. This helps both the new employee and the employer.

For the last 14 years, we at ProGreen have prided ourselves on high-quality products and skilled employees. The approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification would allow us to easily find highly qualified employees looking to enter the workforce, especially those exiting career and technical education programs. I support the approval of this certification, seeing it will be beneficial to employees, employers, and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan Lopez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jordan" and last name "Lopez" clearly distinguishable.

Jordan Lopez
Landscape Designer
ProGreen Turf and Landscaping

April 26, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Hoosiers earning the Equipment and Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification, particularly those pursuing careers in the power equipment industry.

Since 1995, Orange County Economic Development Partnership has been acting out the mission to improve the quality of life of Orange County Citizens. In my role as the Executive Director, it is my duty to local businesses to improve the availability of a skilled workforce. An easy way for me to do that is to help see that employers have access to applicants that possess the certifications the employers are looking for.

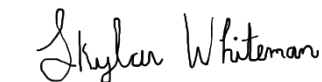
Individuals credentialed with the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification have competency in teardown and reassembly of the four-stroke engine, which is necessary to begin an entry-level career in the outdoor power equipment industry. The best part of this certification is it easily stands out on a job application versus someone describing the skills or experience they possess, which is often vague or nearly impossible to verify. Hiring managers, who often possess an EETC Certification themselves, easily identify candidates qualified for entry-level positions where this certification is listed.

It is imperative we have skilled workers for current and future power equipment positions in the county. In the case of attracting new business, when I can share that Orange County schools are certifying individuals in the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification, it shows that Orange County has the talent necessary to meet employers' needs. It is harder than ever for Orange County's employers to find quality candidates, so I know our employers are eager to offer interviews to entry-level applicants with this certification.

Candidates who have this certification will have the knowledge and skills necessary to troubleshoot, repair, and maintain small engines. EETC produces these industry standards and includes company members such as Kawasaki Engines and Honda Engines.

This certification legitimizes the skills learned in this program and gives individuals the opportunity to stand out amongst others. This certification is extremely valuable to economic developers like me because it helps us support our qualified pipeline of competent workers entering the power equipment industry.

Sincerely,



Skylar Whiteman
Executive Director



505 S. Maple Street
French Lick Indiana 47432



812-936-3388



info@ocedp.com
ocedp.com/info



facebook.com/ocedp



October 4th, 2024

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 and Publications at Rehiko (formerly 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 are used in a myriad of industries including agriculture, lawn care as well as gas and oil production.

At Rehiko, we strive to enhance the quality of life for current and future generations through design, craftsmanship and innovation. To achieve our goals, Rehiko 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.

This certification is recognized by our service network and provides preferential consideration to candidates for careers such as small engine repair technician, agricultural equipment repair technician, industrial equipment repair technician and certification may be crucial to career paths that extend from those roles. In some cases, the certification saves businesses time and money by allowing the employee to forego manufacturer specific training.

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 our dealer network, but it is also vital to the success of the countless industries supported by Rehiko 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Broetzmann", written in a cursive style.

Michael Broetzmann
Manager- Technical Training & Publications
Rehiko- Powertrain Division

Michael.Broetzmann@kohler.com

J.W. ACE NIEDERAUER INC

September 27, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

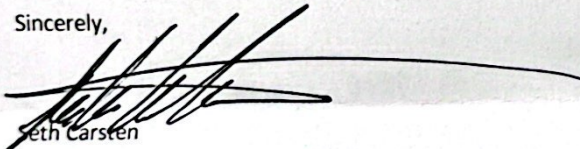
My name is Seth Carsten and I am the Service, Rental and Fleet Manager at Ace Hardware for Brandon, Dell Rapids, Hartford, Harrisburg, Tea, and Lennox, South Dakota. I am writing to express my utmost support for the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Our mission is to be the retailer of choice to work, shop, and invest. As a company we continually change and grow in order to become more efficient and effective in providing customers with the best shopping experience possible. Our overarching goal is to be the best, most helpful hardware store there is and with the EETC Certification we can continue to do that across our stores.

Earning the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is an indication that an individual has mastered key ideas necessary for success in the outdoor power equipment field. This includes being able to comprehend and articulate terms like basic repair, service, maintenance procedures, and operations overview.

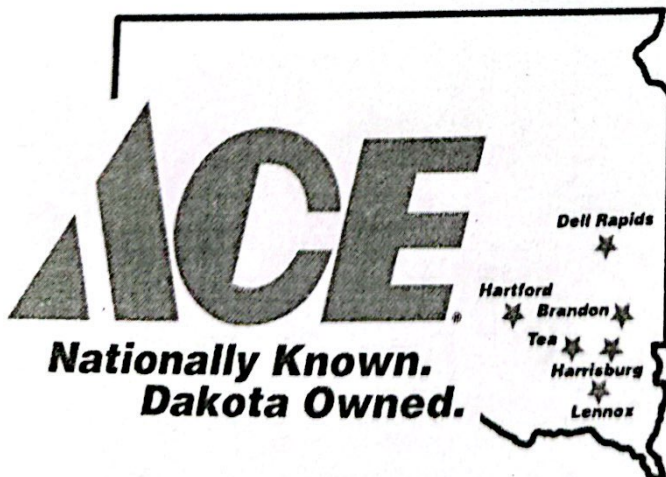
Additionally, having this certification gives learners a benefit when they start looking for work. Employers like me are always on the lookout for highly qualified individuals that are motivated and passionate about their fields. I think that if a student has earned this certification, they have demonstrated their competence, motivation, and enthusiasm for the outdoor power equipment sector. Employers gain from having highly qualified candidates as well as from this certification's ability to put them in direct contact with possible candidates. I prioritize hiring applicants who have earned the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification when choosing candidates for both interviews and positions.

There needs to be more opportunities for South Dakota individuals to learn about outdoor power and small engine fields. That is why it is imperative that the Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification be approved.

Sincerely,



Ace Hardware, Service, Rental, and Fleet Manager



Brandon Ace Hardware
304 S Splitrock Blvd
Brandon, SD 57005
605-582-6383

Dell Rapids Ace Hardware
1108 State Hwy 77
Dell Rapids, SD 57022
605-428-5959

Hartford Ace Hardware
701 S Western Ave
Hartford, SD 57033
605-528-3300

Lennox Ace Hardware
511 N Pine St
Lennox, SD 57039
605-744-0117

Harrisburg Ace Hardware
200 Willow St W
Harrisburg, SD 57032
605-213-0600

Tea Ace Hardware
701 N Heritage Pkwy
Tea, SD 57064
605-213-2000



Burke Outdoor, Inc.

418 West Fleming Drive • P.O. Box 668-28680 • Morganton, NC 28655
PHONE 828.433.0158 FAX 828.433.9995

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. As the General Manager for Burke Outdoor, I fully recognize this certification's potential to create a pipeline of prepared workers with premium outdoor power equipment. Our goal is to produce and sell quality outdoor power equipment to customers. As a result of our dedication since 1996, homeowners and business owners everywhere can count on our customer service, support, and equipment.

The realm of outdoor power equipment is vast. People who hold the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification have a foundational understanding of the small engine industry. Since holders of this certification are knowledgeable about the tools we employ, they are more than qualified for entry-level positions at businesses.

As an employer and manager, I can tell you that when I review resumes for interviews and jobs, candidates with the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification will stand out to me. We know anyone who has earned this comprehensive certification will be well-versed in all subjects relating to power equipment because the knowledge people must acquire to get it is based on industry principles and standards. I also understand those who have earned the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification are trainable, eager to go above and beyond, and require less initial training and preparation to begin working. This benefits both the employer and the new hire. Burke Outdoor has taken great pride in its experienced workforce and top-notch goods for the past 25 years. The acceptance of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification would make it simple for us to locate highly qualified job candidates, particularly those who are finishing vocational and technical school programs. I am in favor of approving this certification because it will help communities, businesses, and employees.

Sincerely,

Rein Behlke
Burke Outdoor, General Manager

Florida Outdoor Equipment
2691 Dardanelle Dr.
Orlando, FL 3280

October 22, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Florida. As the Director of Technical Service at Florida Outdoor Equipment, I have witnessed the significant benefits that a well-trained and EETC certified workforce can bring to our industry. This certification provides an excellent foundation for individuals aspiring to enter the field of small engine technology, which is crucial for our continued success. I am also a former board member and current chairman of the EETC electrical certification committee, so I know firsthand and am committed to the program.

Here at Florida Outdoor Equipment, we pride ourselves on delivering high-quality service and support for a diverse range of outdoor power equipment. This is why it is important to hire applicants with a solid understanding of equipment and diagnostics. The EETC Certification addresses this problem by equipping individuals with comprehensive training in small engine operation and maintenance, ensuring they are ready to make an immediate impact in their roles in the Florida, Georgia and Tennessee workforce.

The skills gained through this certification align perfectly with our commitment to excellence in service and customer satisfaction. By developing a knowledgeable workforce, we can enhance our operational efficiency and continue to meet the high expectations of our customers. I firmly believe that the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification not only helps bridge the skills gap in our industry but also empowers new professionals to thrive in this rewarding field.

Thank you for considering this valuable certification. I am optimistic about this certification continuing to cultivate a skilled workforce in Florida and would love to be able to hire EETC Certified individuals as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andy R Sadlon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Andy Sadlon
Director of Technical Service
Florida Outdoor Equipment



St. Louis • Kansas City • Memphis • Houston • Minneapolis

124 Manufacturers Drive • St. Louis MO 63010-4727 • 636.282.2300 • Fax 888-510-3100
www.MedartEngine.com

October 23, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in all states in which Medart works: North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Texas, Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Michigan. As the Educational and Technical Service Manager at Medart, I have seen firsthand the positive impact that targeted training programs can have on our industry. This certification is an excellent opportunity to equip students with the essential skills needed to thrive in the field of small engine technology.

At Medart, we are dedicated to providing exceptional service and support for a wide range of small engine products. However, Medart and our dealers encounter challenges in finding entry-level employees who possess the foundational knowledge and practical skills necessary for success. The EETC Certification addresses this need by offering comprehensive training in engine operation, repair, and maintenance, ensuring that graduates are prepared to contribute effectively from day one. That is why we (EETC) created the certification.

The skills acquired through this certification not only align with our mission to maintain high standards of service but also empower individuals to excel in a growing field. By fostering a knowledgeable workforce, we can enhance our operational efficiency and continue to meet the expectations of our valued customers. The EETC Certification plays a significant role in developing the skilled professionals we need to support our industry, so we need more students graduating high school with this credential.

Thank you for considering this valuable certification. It cultivates a bright future for both our workforce and the small engine technology sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Jones", written in a cursive style.

Brian Jones
Educational and Technical Service Manager
Medart, Inc.

**Flagler Power Equipment
20 Enterprise Drive
Bunnell, FL 32110**

October 25,2024

Please let me introduce myself. My name is John Reynolds, and I am the owner of Flagler Power Equipment. In 1996, Flagler County, Florida, (population of 40,000) was in need of an outdoor power equipment shop. I opened the doors to Flagler Power Equipment and have been in business for 28 years. We take pride in our service, sales and rental business, delivering great customer service to homeowners, landscapers, trade industry owners, cities and county governments. Over the years, I have seen a large growth in the outdoor power equipment industry with the development of Florida.

Like many outdoor power shops, we are reliant on trained technicians/mechanics with small engine knowledge. It is important to deliver quality service and, in the past, I have had to apprentice our service technicians due to the lack of formal education in this industry. It is critical that these men and women be trained in this field due to the environmental challenges we face.

In 2024, (our population now at 130,000), in the midst of hurricane season, our shop was bombarded with repairs and sales of generators, chain saws, and pumps ahead of the storms. We immediately opened after the storms in order to provide help to those in need with broken down equipment.

Coming off of the latest Hurricanes, Helene and Milton, I am writing to you in support of the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Florida. With a certification that provides the foundational education needed for the success of this industry, I believe it will be a WIN-WIN for the industry as well as the communities in which we are needed.

It is with this hope, that with this program and certification, it will encourage new, young professionals to this industry. With something like this in place, I would be happy to offer a job to a new technician.

I believe that I can speak for other outdoor power shop owners and say thank you for considering the approval of this new program.

Sincerely,

John G Reynolds
Owner of Flagler Power Equipment



November 20, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in the state of Pennsylvania.

My name is William Young, and I am a Small Engine Technology teacher at Upper Bucks County Technical School. I see firsthand how valuable certifications are for students' careers. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification plays a crucial role in preparing students for successful careers in small engine repair and maintenance, which is essential for industries such as landscaping, agriculture, marine services, and outdoor power equipment. By earning this industry-recognized credential, students can validate their technical knowledge and hands-on skills, giving them a competitive advantage in the job market.

Upon earning the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification, students open the door to a variety of career opportunities in fields that are in high demand. They can pursue jobs as small engine technicians, equipment service managers, or repair specialists for industries such as landscaping, construction, agriculture, and recreational vehicle services. Additionally, certified individuals can work in marine services, power equipment sales, and maintenance, or even launch their own repair businesses. This certification not only enhances their employability but also offers them the potential for career advancement in a growing industry.

Approving this certification in Pennsylvania will benefit not only students and schools but also the broader workforce and economy by meeting the needs of industries that rely on small engine technology expertise. I urge the review committee to recognize the importance of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and approve its addition to the state's list of industry certifications.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William W. Young", written in dark ink.

William Young
Instructor
Upper Bucks County Technical School



Servicing Outdoor Power Equipment Dealers Since 1984

8 McFadden Road ☎ Easton, PA 18045 ☎ (800) 942-2326 ☎ <https://shop.cadcodist.com/>

CADCo Distribution/Congdon Associates

8 McFadden Road

Easton, PA 18045

800.942.2326

November 18th, 2024

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jeff Barrows, and I am the Technical Service Manager for CADCo Distribution. I am writing to express our support for the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. We (CADCo Distribution) provide manufacturer's distribution and product support to independent dealers in the Outdoor Power Equipment industry, both commercial and residential. We distribute a complete line of lawn maintenance equipment, as well as snow and ice control products. With years of experience serving over 400 loyal outdoor power equipment dealers and customers, we operate predominately in the Northeastern and Northern Mid-Atlantic United States. Our over 80,000 sq. ft. facility is located in Easton Pennsylvania and employs over 25 people. We enjoy a prominent place and reputation among all independent outdoor power equipment dealers in our territory.

We are asking for your approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. We have a history of supporting industry training. We are also members of industry supporting organizations such as NAEDA (North American Equipment Dealer Association), OPEESA (Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association), EETC (Engine and Equipment Training Council), NJLCA (New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association), and have an association with NEDA (Northeast Equipment Dealer Association). We aspire to bring a level of professionalism to our industry. I believe that this is fostered through purposeful & professional training and mentorship. This starts at the fundamental level, engaging high school students in specialized training. While many vocational programs are disappearing across the US,

having a fundamental training and certification program, like the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology, provides the credentials to further a career in the outdoor power equipment industry. The EETC training and certification programs are vigorously reviewed regularly by industry peers and professionals. This keeps the content relevant and accurate. We wholeheartedly endorse EETC and their endeavors in training, professionalism and certification in our industry. It's what they do!

Government approval of this certification will benefit our industry in so many ways. Finding experienced technicians or knowledgeable employees is a rarity today. There is not only a shortage of qualified technicians, but our industry technicians are "aging out". The average age of technicians in our industry has been steadily increasing since keeping a record for this statistic. (OPE+ Business Trends) We have typically hired employees from other industries and then had to provide extensive and costly training. We would love to support a partnership with educational institutions, not only providing industry insights & program assessments but possible job referrals as well. Having an educational program with the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in educational institutions would provide a foundation and assessment of fundamental skills and visibility into the Outdoor Power Equipment industry.

Again, we would implore you to approve the adoption of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. This will help students seeking technical careers and provide a valuable pool of certified new technicians desperately needed in the outdoor power equipment industry. The EETC programs and certification are second to none, coming from the expertise of professionals in the Outdoor Power Equipment industry.

Sincerely,



John Jeffery Barrows
Technical Service Manager



cadcodist.com

8 McFadden Rd.

Easton, PA 18045

jbarrows@cadcodist.com

908-878-4052 - Service

800-942-2326



511 Executive Center • El Paso, TX 79902
Tel: (915) 771-0393 • Fax: (915) 771-0397
Toll Free: (800) 598-1647

February 18, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Texas. As the president of T&T Staff Management, I have witnessed the challenges of finding knowledgeable and skilled entry-level employees. The EETC certification addresses these challenges by equipping individuals with essential technical knowledge and skills.

At T&T Staff Management, we strive to assist businesses in controlling costs and saving time. However, we face the significant hurdle of a scarcity of qualified candidates. The EETC certification ensures individuals are proficient in troubleshooting, repairing, and maintaining small engines, which is crucial for our organization.

We are committed to offering competitive compensation to certified employees and recognizing their value. Additionally, we are willing to interview candidates based on earning their certification. By approving this EETC certification, the Texas State Board of Education will support industry growth and provide pathways for individuals to secure high-demand roles.

Thank you for considering this important certification. I believe the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification will

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Thad Steele', is written over a horizontal line.

Thad Steele
CEO, T&T Staff Management



March 5, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Chief Dam Safety Engineer for the Sabine River Authority of Texas, I am pleased to express my full support for the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. Our organization is responsible for managing water resources, maintaining critical infrastructure, and ensuring the proper functioning of various equipment across the Sabine River Basin. The knowledge and skills acquired through this certification, including engine maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair, are directly aligned with our need for skilled technicians who can maintain and service the engines that power much of our equipment and operations.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification plays a crucial role in preparing individuals with the technical expertise and practical experience necessary to effectively maintain and repair small engines. This certification adds significant value to potential employees, and as a result, I am committed to offering competitive compensation to certified individuals. I will prioritize certified candidates in our hiring process and offer interviews to those who have earned this credential, recognizing the added value they bring to our organization.

By approving the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Texas, we can better prepare the next generation of skilled technicians while strengthening organizations like ours that depend on well-maintained equipment to operate efficiently and safely. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Andrew Balingit'.

Andrew Balingit
Chief Dam Safety Engineer
Sabine River Authority of Texas



March 13, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

The Sports Field Management Association (SFMA) is dedicated to advancing the field of sports field management through education, research, and professional development. A critical aspect of career readiness in the sports field management and turf industries is having a solid understanding of small engine technology. That is why we strongly support the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. This certification equips individuals with essential knowledge in engine maintenance, repair, and diagnostics, preparing them for careers in turf management, landscape maintenance, and facility operations.

Small engine expertise is vital for professionals working in sports field management, where the maintenance of equipment such as mowers, aerators, and other machinery is crucial to ensuring fields are properly maintained and safe for play. Understanding small engine systems and troubleshooting ensures that professionals can keep equipment running smoothly and efficiently, which ultimately supports the long-term maintenance and success of athletic fields. Certifications like the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification help ensure individuals are up to date with industry standards and best practices, ultimately improving field operations and sustainability.

SFMA recognizes the importance of certifications in preparing individuals for successful careers in sports field management, and we fully support the approval of this certification. By equipping professionals with the technical knowledge and skills necessary to maintain and repair small engine equipment, this certification strengthens the industry and supports the long-term success of sports field professionals.

Sincerely,

Jennifer McLendon, M.Ed.
Education Manager



5625 CR 7410 Lubbock, TX 79424 | O: (806) 785-3438 F: (806) 785-3450

March 17, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

At Gargoyle Structures Inc., we specialize in the construction and maintenance of high-quality fabric-covered buildings used in industrial, agricultural, and commercial applications. Our work often involves small engine-powered equipment, from generators to power tools, which are essential to daily operations. One of the biggest challenges we face is finding entry-level employees who have the technical skills to troubleshoot, maintain, and repair this equipment.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification would help bridge this skills gap by preparing students with the fundamentals of engine operation, diagnostics, and repair. A certification like this ensures candidates have a strong foundation in fuel systems, electrical components, and troubleshooting techniques—critical skills for maintaining the efficiency and longevity of our equipment. Because of this, we are willing to offer interviews to certified candidates and provide them with a higher starting wage, as they would require less training and add productivity from day one.

I strongly support the approval of this certification in Texas. A workforce with hands-on knowledge of small engine technology benefits not only businesses like ours but also industries across the state that rely on well-maintained equipment. This certification would provide students with a direct pathway to employment while ensuring companies like Gargoyle Structures Inc. have access to skilled workers who can contribute immediately.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Postar", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

David Postar
President, Gargoyle Structures Inc.



a professional services
firm of certified public
accountants

9816 Slide Road
Suite 301
Lubbock, TX 79424-5781
telephone (806) 744-3333
fax (806) 747-2106
www.rbmsllp.com

Partners:

Rick A. Martin, CPA
John Seright, MSA, CPA/ABV, CVA, CFFA
Carolyn Robinson-Stephenson, CPA
Brent Redford, MSA, CPA, CFE
Matt Heider, MSA, CPA, CVA
Sara Hester, MSA, CPA

March 24, 2025

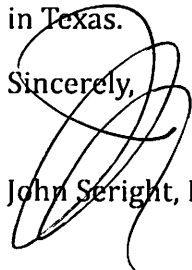
To Whom It May Concern

As a managing partner and CPA of RBMS, LLP in Lubbock, Texas, I am pleased to offer my support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in the state of Texas. With over 40 years of experience in accounting and financial management, as well as my background as a former accounting instructor, I understand the importance of structured instruction and industry-recognized certifications in preparing individuals for successful careers. This certification will be instrumental in developing a skilled workforce for the small engine technology industry.

A well-trained workforce is essential for the continued growth of industries that rely on small engine technology. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification provides individuals with foundational skills in engine maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair, ensuring they are ready to contribute effectively from the start. By mastering key technical skills, safety procedures, and industry standards, certified individuals will be well-prepared to meet the demands of employers and strengthen the workforce.

At RBMS, LLP, we recognize the importance of credentials that demonstrate technical expertise and professional commitment. I firmly believe that individuals who obtain the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification should be acknowledged for their specialized knowledge, and I would be willing to offer both interviews and higher salaries to candidates who hold this certification. This certification will not only raise industry standards but also support the growth of businesses and the economy. I strongly encourage the approval of this certification to help build a more qualified and competitive workforce in Texas.

Sincerely,



John Seright, MSA, CPA/ABV, CVA, MAFF



February 19, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the owner of House Containers, a roll-off construction dumpster company based in Lubbock, Texas, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges in finding knowledgeable and skilled entry-level employees. Our operations rely heavily on small engine equipment for the delivery and retrieval of dumpsters at various construction sites. However, identifying candidates proficient in troubleshooting, repairing, servicing, and maintaining these essential 4-stroke small engines can be a struggle.

The Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification addresses this critical industry need by validating individuals' competencies in handling industry-standard equipment and tools. This certification ensures that individuals possess the foundational knowledge and skills required to maintain and service small engines effectively. By recognizing this certification, we can find employees who are better prepared to keep our equipment running smoothly and our operations on track.

Implementing the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Texas would not only enhance the quality of our workforce but also streamline the recruitment process for companies like House Containers. It would provide a reliable benchmark for assessing potential employees' capabilities, reducing the time and resources spent on training. I strongly support the approval of this certification in our state, as it promises to elevate industry standards and meet the growing demand for qualified professionals in the small engine sector.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ellen Wallace". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ellen Wallace

Owner, House Containers



March 19, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing on behalf of Express Employment Professionals to offer our full support for the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. As the Vice President of Marketing and Communications, I understand the value of certifications that equip individuals with the technical expertise needed to excel in highly specialized fields, and this certification is essential for those pursuing careers in small engine repair and maintenance.

The skills gained through the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification are crucial for individuals working with a wide range of equipment, from lawnmowers and generators to agricultural machinery. This certification provides individuals with a strong foundation in engine repair, maintenance, and troubleshooting, which are vital skills for maintaining the equipment that keeps many businesses, farms, and communities running efficiently.

At Express Employment Professionals, we frequently place candidates in roles that require technical skills in machinery repair and maintenance. We believe that this certification will empower individuals to provide valuable services to a wide range of industries, ensuring that essential equipment remains in good working order, minimizing downtime, and increasing overall productivity.

We fully support the approval of this certification, recognizing its value in providing businesses with skilled workers who can immediately contribute to their success. This certification will help strengthen the workforce by ensuring that individuals are equipped with up-to-date knowledge of best practices and industry standards.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important certification.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rachel Rudisill".

Rachel Rudisill

Vice President of Marketing and Communications
Express Employment Professionals



April 1, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the owner of Paradise Point Park, I have firsthand experience with the challenges of maintaining various equipment essential to our operations. Our facilities include fully furnished cabins, a shaded RV park, a beach, a playground, a laundromat, and plenty of green space, all of which relies heavily on the smooth functioning of small engines and outdoor power equipment. Finding knowledgeable and skilled entry-level employees to service and maintain this equipment has been a persistent challenge – and expensive to outsource. The specialized nature of small engine repair on weed eaters, lawnmowers, leaf blowers, etc. requires competencies not commonly found among job applicants in our region.

The Equipment & Engine Training Council (EETC) Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification address this critical need by validating the essential knowledge and skills required in the outdoor power equipment industry. This certification ensures which individuals are proficient in troubleshooting, repairing, servicing, and maintaining small four-stroke engines, aligning perfectly with the competencies we seek in our employees. I would love to hire someone with this certification and thus these proven skills. I would be glad to offer guaranteed interviews, and a higher starting pay to anyone with this certification.

By supporting the approval of this certification in Texas, we can cultivate a better workforce equipped to meet the demands of businesses like ours. This initiative will enhance employment opportunities for individuals and ensure that establishments, such as Paradise Point Park, can continue to operate efficiently, providing exceptional experiences for our visitors.

Sincerely,

Kristal May

Owner, Paradise Point Park



April 3, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Owner and General Manager of Columbia Packing Co., Inc., I am pleased to support the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Texas. The ability to understand, maintain, and repair small engines is a valuable skill that applies across industries, from agriculture to manufacturing and beyond. Properly trained individuals help ensure that equipment remains reliable and efficient, reducing downtime and increasing productivity.

Finding employees with strong technical skills in small engine technology is an ongoing challenge, but I am always encouraged when I come across individuals who have taken the initiative to develop their expertise. A solid understanding of engine maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair not only improves efficiency but also helps prevent costly breakdowns and delays. This certification ensures individuals are well-prepared to handle these tasks with confidence, making them valuable additions to any workplace.

Recognizing the importance of these skills, I am committed to offering interviews to certified individuals and providing higher compensation to those who demonstrate expertise in small engine technology. Approving the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in Texas will help develop a workforce that is both technically skilled and ready to meet the demands of industries that rely on small engines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rusty Ondrusek".

Rusty Ondrusek
Columbia Packing Co., Inc.



Angelo State University

*Office of the Provost and Vice President
for Academic Affairs*

April 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to offer my full support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in the state of Texas. As someone who has dedicated my career to agricultural science and education and now serves as Provost at Angelo State University, I understand how vital mechanical competency is to a wide range of industries. This certification delivers exactly what employers need—individuals equipped with practical, technical knowledge in engine systems, diagnostics, and repair, all of which are essential in today's workforce.

When we're looking to bring on new team members or work with entry-level professionals, a challenge that can be faced is finding individuals who already understand the fundamentals of mechanical systems. That's why certifications like this one make such a difference—they signal not just interest, but proven competence. Individuals with this certification walk in ready to contribute.

I'm proud to support EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology for statewide approval. It provides a clear pathway for individuals to stand out and immediately add value. At Angelo State, we would absolutely consider certified applicants for interviews and would offer higher pay to those who bring this kind of verified skill set to the table.

Thank you for your time and for considering the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification for Texas. It's a meaningful step toward a stronger, more capable workforce.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don R. Topliff".

Don R. Topliff, Ph.D.
Provost/VPAA



April 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I'm writing to share my enthusiastic support for the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and its approval in the state of Texas. As a Landscape Designer at All Seasons Property Care in Lubbock, Texas, I can tell you that small engine knowledge is essential in our day-to-day operations. From mowers and trimmers to blowers and compact equipment, properly operating and maintaining small engines keeps our crews efficient and our clients happy. This certification provides individuals with valuable experience in engine systems, diagnostics, and preventative maintenance—skills we rely on every single day.

Hiring entry-level employees with hands-on experience and technical confidence around small engines can be a challenge. Many are willing to learn, but it takes time and training to get them comfortable with the tools we use. That's why this certification is so meaningful—it equips individuals with a solid understanding before they even step on the job site. When someone has been exposed to troubleshooting, repairs, and safety procedures through this kind of training, they bring a level of readiness that benefits the entire team.

At All Seasons Property Care, we appreciate when someone comes to us prepared and passionate about what they do. We're happy to offer interviews and higher pay to those who've earned the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. It's a smart move for anyone entering the workforce and a valuable step forward for industries that rely on this type of equipment daily. I'm proud to support its approval in Texas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry McNeill", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Terry McNeill
All Seasons Property Care



April 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As President of Bledsoe Insurance Agency Inc., I'm writing in full support of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and its approval in the state of Texas. This certification equips individuals with practical, hands-on knowledge of small engine systems, diagnostics, and repair—skills that are directly relevant to the needs of our rural and agricultural clients. Whether it's farm equipment, lawn and garden machinery, or recreational vehicles, small engines play a big role in the lives and livelihoods of many we serve.

We value team members who can understand the tools our clients use every day, and small engine knowledge is a major part of that. Certified individuals are often more confident, capable, and ready to solve problems, which allows us to better relate to the needs of the people we insure. It's refreshing to see a certification that emphasizes real-world application, safety, and mechanical understanding, especially one that supports both technical skill and critical thinking.

At Bledsoe Insurance Agency, we truly appreciate the initiative shown by anyone who earns this certification. We're happy to offer interviews and increased pay to individuals who have taken the time to develop these valuable skills. Supporting the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification is an easy decision—we know it creates stronger professionals and, in turn, stronger service for our clients across Texas.

Sincerely,



Bret Lamkin

Bledsoe Insurance Agency Inc.



March 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

At Pilgrim's, we rely on a wide range of equipment and machinery to maintain efficient operations, from processing systems to facility maintenance tools. A workforce with a strong understanding of mechanical systems and small engine technology is essential to ensuring equipment reliability and minimizing downtime. We believe all employees can benefit from technical knowledge, as it helps them develop problem-solving skills and contribute more effectively to workplace operations.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification supports this goal by equipping individuals with foundational knowledge of engine components, maintenance, troubleshooting, and repair. Candidates who earn this certification demonstrate an ability to work with mechanical systems, diagnose issues, and apply preventive maintenance practices—skills that are invaluable in an industrial setting. Employees with this expertise help improve efficiency, reduce costly repairs, and ensure smooth day-to-day operations.

Recognizing the value of this certification, Pilgrim's is committed to offering higher starting wages to certified candidates and prioritizing them in our hiring process. We strongly support the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and believe its approval will enhance workforce readiness, improve mechanical competency, and benefit both employees and the broader industry.

Sincerely,

Ansen Pond
Head of Operations
Pilgrim's



1770 Promontory Circle | Greeley, CO 80634



970.506.8000



pilgrims.com



April 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the Strategic Advisor at Woods Cycle Country in New Braunfels, I'm proud to voice our full support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification here in Texas.

At our dealership, we work on everything from ATVs and motorcycles to utility vehicles and other small engine-powered equipment. The ability to properly diagnose and service these engines—safely and efficiently—is critical to keeping our customers happy and our shop running strong.

This certification gives techs a solid foundation in engine operation, diagnostics, and shop safety—skills that matter every single day in our industry. When someone comes in with this certification, it's immediately obvious. They're confident, prepared, and ready to get to work on real-world service jobs. That kind of preparation makes a huge difference, and it's why we prioritize hiring certified individuals and offer them a higher starting wage.

Approving this certification in Texas would be a big step forward—not just for students and future techs, but for dealerships like ours that depend on skilled, motivated professionals to meet the needs of our customers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Sheffield". Below the signature, the date "4/21/25" is handwritten in blue ink.

Mark Sheffield
Woods Cycle Country

1933 N Interstate 35 · New Braunfels · Texas · 78130
(830) 606-9828 · Fax (830) 609-9679 · (877) 885-8990
WoodsCycleCountry.com



April 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the owner of Woods Cycle Country in New Braunfels, Texas, I'm pleased to offer my support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in the state of Texas. Our dealership specializes in powersports equipment—from motorcycles and ATVs to lawn and utility vehicles—and having team members who understand the mechanics and systems behind small engines is absolutely essential. This certification delivers the kind of foundational knowledge that directly translates into success in our service and repair departments.

It's always exciting to meet individuals who are passionate about engines and eager to start a career in the power sports industry. When someone arrives with this certification, we know they've already developed a solid understanding of engine theory, troubleshooting, tools, and safety—key skills that allow them to contribute from day one. Certified individuals come in confident, capable, and ready to learn, and that makes a world of difference in a fast-paced, customer-driven environment like ours. Because of the value this brings, we're glad to offer interviews and higher starting pay to those who have completed the certification.

We believe the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification represents an important investment in the future of the power sports and small engine service industry. Individuals who pursue it demonstrate initiative, technical fluency, and a genuine interest in mastering a valuable trade. Its approval in Texas will help strengthen our workforce and ensure businesses like ours can continue to deliver top-tier service and expertise to customers across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Woods". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being clearly legible.

Mark Woods
Woods Cycle Country

April 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As an Agricultural Science Educator at Sam Houston State University, I am writing to express my strong support for the approval of the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification in the state of Texas. I teach courses in agricultural education, communications, and engineering technology, and I see firsthand how essential small engine knowledge is for students preparing for careers in agricultural mechanics and education.

The content covered in this certification—engine theory, safety, diagnostics, and mechanical skills—not only aligns closely with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS), but also mirrors the expectations of today's industry employers. It equips students with foundational knowledge that is both practical and in demand.

When part-time student workers apply to assist in our agricultural department, I specifically look for this certification as a mark of readiness and initiative. I also know many Texas agricultural educators who are already certifying their students through this program, which speaks volumes about its relevance and value. EETC is widely recognized as the industry leader in small engine education, and their certification reflects that standard.

Despite the growing need for small engine expertise in the mechanics and education sectors, such knowledge remains surprisingly rare. Yet, small engine instruction is embedded in TEKS welding courses, making it even more important that we prepare students for the many high-wage, entry-level opportunities available in service departments, dealerships, equipment sales, and ag mechanics education.

The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification gives students the confidence and competence to succeed in the workforce. I strongly support its approval in Texas and believe it will play a significant role in enhancing technical readiness and opening doors for future professionals across the state.

Sincerely,



Dr. Maureen Victoria
Sam Houston State University



April 21, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As the President of Family Powersports, I am pleased to offer my support for the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification to be approved in the state of Texas. At Family PowerSports, we proudly serve customers across Texas with top-tier recreational and utility vehicles—from ATVs and motorcycles to boats and side-by-sides. Our success is driven by the quality of our service teams, and that begins with technicians who understand the core mechanics, systems, and safety practices of small engine technology. This certification gives individuals a strong technical foundation that we look for when hiring.

It's always encouraging to meet new candidates who are not only enthusiastic but also truly prepared for the hands-on demands of our industry. Those who have earned this certification come equipped with essential knowledge in engine theory, fuel systems, ignition diagnostics, and shop safety. They're able to contribute quickly and grow confidently in our fast-paced environment. Because of the strong alignment between this certification and the skills we need, we're proud to offer interviews and increased pay to individuals who hold it.

The EETC Small Engine Technology Certification represents a real opportunity to build a stronger and more technically proficient workforce in Texas. Individuals who pursue this certification demonstrate initiative, mechanical aptitude, and a clear interest in developing a lasting career in our field. I believe its statewide approval will positively impact our business and the broader powersports and small engine industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wade Hoak", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Wade Hoak

Family PowerSports



WELLS HOLLOW LANDSCAPING

April 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As Co-Owner and Office Manager of Wells Hollow Landscaping in Waverly, Iowa, I'm pleased to express my support for the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification and its approval in the state of Iowa. At Wells Hollow Landscaping, we rely on a variety of small engine equipment everyday—mowers, trimmers, blowers, and more. Having team members who understand how these machines work, how to maintain them, and how to troubleshoot issues keeps our jobs running smoothly and safely. This certification builds exactly that kind of practical, hands-on knowledge.

It's always refreshing when we find new employees who already have the skills to maintain and repair the equipment we rely on. The EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification gives individuals the technical foundation to feel confident when working with small engines. This level of preparedness not only helps our team get up and running faster, but it also ensures that our equipment stays in top condition, reducing downtime and improving our overall efficiency.

At Wells Hollow Landscaping, we recognize the value of specialized training and are happy to offer interviews and higher pay to those who've earned the EETC Principles of Small Engine Technology Certification. It supports both personal and professional growth, and we see it as a strong step toward building a skilled and dependable workforce in our industry.

Sincerely,

Jen Wells
Wells Hollow Landscaping