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**The Canadian Alliance for Productivity Improvement
(C.A.P.I.)**

par

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THE CANADIAN ALLIANCE FOR PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT (C.A.P.I.)

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Canadian Alliance for Productivity Improvement is to improve the productivity or competitiveness of manufacturers and the quality of work life for employees by promoting partnerships among technology suppliers, industrial users, labour organizations, and all levels of education and to facilitate the formation of these partnerships through information sharing.

Vision

The C.A.P.I. initiative helps trainers and educators identify significant technologies that should be incorporated into training programs. These technologies are transferred to trainers by establishing partnerships with vendors and developers of the technologies. When the partnerships are formed, the industrial partner(s) provide the course from a designated or central location. The aim is to have participants selected from various geographical regions and various institutions, businesses or industries with the expectation that the participants will become trainers. This technology transfer model provides an efficient and effective method of bridging the technology transfer gaps.

Alliance Objectives

1. To provide leadership in the identification, development, modification, understanding and availability of technical information, resource exchanges, assistance, methodologies, training and services.
2. To provide opportunities for cooperative research and development projects.
3. To provide a broadly based information network among Canada's provinces and territories, Alliance members, partners, groups and organizations.
4. To provide mutual assistance and support in such areas as research, market analysis, management and leadership development, training programs, planning, production capability and process analyses.
5. To promote an improved image of technical education and technical careers.

Organization

At the present time, provincial chapters are being established throughout Canada. Chapters have been organized in Ontario, Quebec, and Alberta with high interest being expressed in the Maritime provinces and British Columbia.

Examples of successes to date are found in pilot projects sponsored by the Ontario Chapter of the Alliance as follows:

1. Automation Technology - A course designed to provide trainers with an overview of the latest developments in the areas of programmable logic controllers, pneumatics and hydraulics and to demonstrate related effective training techniques.

2. **Solid Modelling - Instruction in the underlying theory/concepts of solid modelling and the operation of Autodesk Architectural Mechanical Engineering.**
3. **Machining Superabrasives - A course to acquaint technical college instructors with the latest diamond and carborundum grinding and machining technology.**
4. **Total Quality Management - An awareness seminar for trainers, college instructors, secondary school teachers and education administrators to identify current industry TQM practices and anticipated new technology.**
5. **3D Management and Teaching Concepts - A course to teach college instructors, trainers and secondary school teachers how to manage a three dimensional teaching environment and teach 3D concepts.**

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Pilot projects have provided convincing evidence that partners have been assisted in the following ways:

1. **The evaluation and selection of appropriate hardware and software.**
2. **The reduction of implementation time through information training networks.**
3. **The identification of learning resources and teaching techniques related to technology.**
4. **The reduction of learning material costs through educational discounts.**
5. **The designing and evaluating of programs to meet particular needs.**

The Canadian Alliance for Productivity Improvement is a non-funded fledgling organization. However, it has taken significant steps in meeting the needs for highly skilled trainers and employees. The Canadian Alliance for Productivity Improvement represents an innovative approach to dealing with the concerns about our declining position in manufacturing processes and productivity.