



McDermott, Ohio



Success Story Taylor Lumber: Developing a Skilled Workforce

Having skilled employees is one of the most important parts of any business. For Taylor Lumber Worldwide Inc., a company that relies on producing high-grade timber products, a skilled workforce is imperative.

The lumber manufacturing company, which has been operating in the Appalachian Mountains since 1886, produces top quality solid hardwood lumber and flooring products from high-grade Appalachian timber. The company recognized that good products rely on a good workforce and turned to the Small Business Development Center at OSU South Centers in Piqueton, Ohio for help.

“Our industry has seen a growing need for workforce development in a variety of areas,” said Bart Frost, Corporate HR Manager for Taylor Lumber Worldwide Inc. “In discussion with OSU South Centers, we saw an opportunity to educate employees in the field of grading lumber, which had a direct impact on our success as an organization.”

OSU South Centers worked with Taylor Lumber and the National Hardwood Lumber Association (NHLA) to give employees the training they needed to improve their process while maintaining a quality product.

Taylor Lumber has been able to send 20 employees to weeklong training opportunities with the NHLA about lumber grading. The training provided Taylor Lumber the ability to focus on developing current employees, rather than hiring new talent with existing skills. Participants of the course received a NHLA lumber grading certification, a highly recognized certification in the lumber industry.

“It’s a great feeling know we have such an incredible resource at our disposal,” Frost said. “The SBDC is a critical partner that we have come to rely on as both an advocate and a resource.”

With the continued partnership, Taylor Lumber continues to educate and train its workforce in order to keep up with the growing industry.

For more information about Taylor Lumber Worldwide, visit: taylorlumberinc.com

For more information about Ohio Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) programs and resources, visit: sbdc.development.ohio.gov

