



State of California

Employment Training Panel

CASE STUDY

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor

Arlon, Inc.

Founded in 1958, Arlon, Inc., manufactures quality coated and laminated specialty papers, tapes, foams, and films for engineers, designers, and fabricators worldwide. Arlon employs approximately 250 workers, and maintains its headquarters in Santa Ana. The company's Adhesive and Films plant is also located in Santa Ana, and its Materials for Electronics plant operates out of Rancho Cucamonga.

The Santa Ana plant specializes in manufacturing coating and laminating materials for a wide variety of industrial markets, and formulates, casts, coats, converts, packages, and sells its vinyl film worldwide through its own distribution network. Additionally, this facility designs and manufactures materials used in producing banners, vehicle decals, fascia signs, displays and window graphics.

The Rancho Cucamonga plant designs and manufactures copper clad laminates and bonding materials for the fabrication of high performance and frequency-dependent printed circuit boards, which are typically used in advanced commercial and military electronics applications.

In an effort to remain viable in an industry where lower foreign labor and overhead costs make it challenging for California companies to compete, Arlon has utilized ETP funding to streamline its work processes to remain competitive throughout the United States and abroad. Workers have been trained in the areas of Lean Enterprise, Six Sigma, and Kaizen, which has not only helped the company maintain their marketplace, but also helped create an environment where management and employees work proactively to understand the use of facts, data, and analysis to manage, improve, and reinvent processes.

Senior management firmly believe that in order to reach its goals, Arlon must create a culture of continuous improvement through rigorous quality control practices, which in turn will allow the company to adapt and lower its costs while, at the same time, exceeding customer expectations.

“To remain viable, globally competitive, and to increase our customer base, Arlon needed to move towards improving all work processes. ETP training funds have contributed to many improvements throughout our entire operation. More importantly, ETP training funds have allowed us to experience sustained process improvements in our efforts to become a high performance workplace.”

**Lynn Levoy, Human Resources Director
Arlon, Inc.**

For information regarding the ETP program, call ETP's Economic Development Unit at 916/327-5640 or e-mail edu@etp.ca.gov.

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