

**For immediate release**

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**NIMS and Festo Didactic to Develop Industry 4.0 Skills Standards and Certified  
Training Program**

[Fairfax, VA – May 6, 2019] The National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS), in partnership with Festo Didactic, will establish industry-recognized skills standards and ultimately credentials for jobs related to Industry 4.0. In light of the significant trend in digitalization of manufacturing through technology advancements such as Industrial Internet of Things (IoT), training in these skills is vitally needed now. With NIMS' emphasis on manufacturing skills training, credentialing, and standards, plus Festo's complete Industry 4.0 learning Factories, courseware and eLearning integration, the two organizations are well poised to provide the training programs for Industry 4.0.

Montez King, executive director of NIMS, made the announcement and said, "This is an exciting development for manufacturers and educators as it directly addresses both the data-driven revolution happening in manufacturing today and the skills gap. There are so many interdependent functions and abilities surrounding Industry 4.0 that this effort will help to bring clarity to the proficiencies required, train people extremely well, and validate their expertise."

The emergence of Industry 4.0 is new territory for most in manufacturing. As such, among the first tasks to be accomplished is to conduct research to discover and verify

exactly what those competencies must be. Then, the training protocols and credentials will be created. “We are hopeful to have the standards identified and the training program in place by the end of 2019,” Mr. King said.

Mr. Thomas Lichtenberger, CEO of Festo Didactic said, “As the production line become ‘smarter’ – collecting data to change processes and create efficiencies – workers and students will be expected to adapt in the same way. Bringing NIMS, Festo, and other industry partners together, we look forward to a collaboration that leads to world class industry standards and learning systems programs.”

During the development of the new Industry 4.0 skills standards, NIMS will ascertain the credentials in its existing programs that support the various Industry 4.0 functions and target new credentials for development. The training outcome is to provide employees in or entering a manufacturing workplace with an understanding of Industry 4.0 concepts and impart certifiable skills as companies increasingly adopt automation and data gathering and management functions in their manufacturing operations.

For more information, contact NIMS at (703) 352-4971, [www.nims-skills.org](http://www.nims-skills.org).

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### **More About The National Institute for Metalworking Skills (NIMS)**

Established in 1995, NIMS is the developer of high-quality competency-based skills standards, credentials, and apprenticeship solutions for jobs in manufacturing and related industries. With a stakeholder base that represents more than 2500 companies and educational institutions, NIMS offers experience and knowledge in fostering

industry-education partnerships to cultivate talent centered on industry-recognized standards and credentials. [www.nims-skills.org](http://www.nims-skills.org).

### **More About Festo Didactic**

Festo Didactic is a leading provider of technical education equipment and training.

Festo's educational solutions evolved from its world-class automation and engineering division and integrates the latest trends in each learning system it offers. The innovative product range allows educators and trainers to equip their classroom with the technology they need, from individual workstations to complete Learning Factories, as well as training and consulting, eLearning, courseware solutions, and LMS integration.

[www.festo-didactic.com/int-en/](http://www.festo-didactic.com/int-en/)