Sac State summit focuses on restoring jobs

The revitalization of U.S. manufacturing and its impact on bringing jobs back to the United States were the focus of the Sacramento Manufacturing Summit, “Making the Case for ‘Made in America,’ ” on Thursday, Nov. 10, at Sacramento State’s Alumni Center.

The summit was presented by The Corporation for Manufacturing Excellence (Manex), Sacramento State, MetroPulse/Sacramento Metro Chamber, City of Sacramento Economic Development, and Sacramento Works.

Rep. Doris Matsui, D-Sacramento, welcomed the attendees by underscoring the need to restore the nation’s manufacturing sector. “That is why I helped introduce the Make It in America Initiative in Congress and am supportive of the efforts by Sacramento State, Manex and their other partners to put this issue in the spotlight,” she said.

“Rejuvenating the nation’s manufacturing sector can significantly affect job creation,” said Manex president Hank Holzapfel. “Manufacturing has a multiplier effect that creates jobs throughout the supply chain. For every manufacturing job created, seven additional jobs are created in other sectors.”

That message was delivered in depth by the summit’s keynote speaker, Harry Moser, founder of the nonprofit Reshoring Initiative, which focuses on persuading manufacturers to return to the United States.
The Reshoring Initiative’s objective is to accelerate the process by persuading U.S.-based companies to make decisions that are in their economic interest. That, Moser said, means understanding that many companies are ignoring the 20 percent or more cost of outsourcing. Or that the burgeoning cost of incremental U.S. unemployment and benefit payments is nearly equal to consumer cost savings.

Moser punctuated Matsui’s point by noting that lawmakers are beginning to see the wisdom of encouraging companies to restore their competitive edge by becoming fiscally more efficient through “reshoring.”

A panel featuring entrepreneurs Rick Wylie, Tom Kandris, Rick Ellstrom and Mickey Oros discussed their respective enterprises and the importance of growing manufacturing jobs in California.

Also addressing the conference was Sacramento native and Sac State graduate Mark Otero. The serial entrepreneur built the multimillion-dollar social game company KlickNation, with offices in midtown Sacramento and San Francisco.

For more on Manex: www.manexconsulting.com. For media assistance, contact Sacramento State’s Public Affairs office at (916) 278-6516.

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