

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Youth Registration Closes February 10
for Business After School: Engineering Week**

VANCOUVER, Wash. (February 4, 2015) – Young adults interested in visiting local businesses and learning about careers surrounding engineering have until **noon on February 10** to register for Business After School: Engineering Week!

The event is February 16-18 and is open to young adults, ages 16-21. Sponsoring companies: Kiewit Infrastructure West, Silicon Forest Electronics, GeoDesign, Columbia Machine, MacKay Sposito and Elkhart Plastics are hosting two-hour events from 3-5 p.m. or 4-6 p.m. on one of the three days and will be providing company tours, hands-on activities and discussions of the necessary education, training, skills and job prospects.

Monday, February 16

- Kiewit Infrastructure
- Silicon Forest Electronics
- GeoDesign Longview

Tuesday, February 17

- Columbia Machine
- Mackay Sposito

Wednesday, February 18

- Elkhart Plastics

To register to attend an event, go to www.business-after-school.webs.com and click the "Events & Registration" tab.

There is no cost to attend, but **registration is required (no drop-ins) and space is limited**. Youth under age 18 **must** be accompanied by an adult, with a maximum 10 students to one chaperone. Participants will arrange their own transportation.

Many industries will face labor shortages in the near future as long-time employees retire and industry growth outpaces trained workers. Bridging this gap is critical and why the Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council, Clark College, Columbia River Economic Development Council, Cowlitz Economic Development Council, Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, Kelso Longview Chamber of Commerce, Lower Columbia College and Washington State University Vancouver have created Business After School to help young adults learn about and explore high-growth industries and gather information about career opportunities and skills they'll need to obtain jobs.

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Southwest Washington Workforce Development Council (SWWDC), a nonprofit organization founded in 2002, is the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) for Clark, Cowlitz and Wahkiakum counties. SWWDC brings together funding, service providers, colleges, economic development and community organizations to provide employment and training services to businesses, job seekers and youth. Its mission is to prepare and promote a skilled and adaptive workforce for a thriving economy in Southwest Washington. For more information, visit www.swwdc.org.