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### Business

# Teachers get new skills by working in industry

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By Register Staff

Seven high school and college teachers from throughout the state, including a North Haven resident, are spending part of their summer working at manufacturing companies in Connecticut to gain hands-on experience with technological advancements in the industry that they can later share with their students.

Chris Porto of North Haven, a pre-electrical engineering teacher at Norwich Technical High School, will spend Tuesday through July 30 focusing on electrical engineering at Ultra Electronics Measurement Systems Inc. in Wallingford.

Porto is the only Greater New Haven resident chosen for the program; no teachers from area schools are participating.

The Connecticut Business & Industry Association is administering the program on behalf of the Connecticut Community Colleges' College of Technology Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing, which is funded by the National Science Foundation.

The summer "externship" program, as CBIA calls it, requires participating educators to spend 160 hours at a manufacturing business before they return to their classrooms in August. Participants get a \$4,000 stipend for their time spent learning in the workplace and implementing what they learn in their schools.

"The program has been very successful over the years, showing teachers real-world manufacturing and engineering challenges and the exciting career opportunities available to their students," Judith Resnick, CBIA's director of work force development and training, said in a statement.

"These teachers were selected for their commitment to learning about technological advances in the workplace. After their on-the-job training is complete, they will develop a work-based learning project for their students, providing a more realistic understanding of how classroom learning is applied on the job," said Resnick, who also is executive director of CBIA's Education Foundation.

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