

# Press Release

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**For Immediate Release**  
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## Cutting-Edge 3D Printing Lab Launches at the Science Center

**ST. PETERSBURG, FL (August 23, 2016)** – The Science Center is excited to announce the launch of a 3D Printing and Fabrication lab. The lab was made possible due to a generous donation provided by the Duke Energy Foundation.

Businesses are seeing the increased demand for the technology, as they strive to find a workforce that has a deep knowledge of 3D printing. It's anticipated that the 3D printing industry will exceed \$21B in worldwide revenue by 2020.

In response to this workforce demand, the Duke Energy Foundation invested \$50,000 to establish this state-of-the-art lab. In the program students learn how to move their designs from models to a manufactured part via 3D printing known as “additive manufacturing” and milling known as “subtractive manufacturing” through the use of Solidworks software.

“Duke Energy is proud to support CareerSource Pinellas and the Science Center’s 3D printing lab and soldering and cabling programs,” said Alex Glenn, state president, Duke Energy – Florida. “We invest in workforce development initiatives to help create a skilled workforce and make a positive impact in the communities we serve. These programs enable local residents to receive training in high-demand fields and land opportunities with businesses in the Tampa Bay community.”

The investment also helps to support individuals participating in the Soldering and Cabling program. This program is designed to be a pathway into the fast-paced growth of the electronics manufacturing industry. Students that successfully complete the program obtain a series of IPC certifications. Since February 2016, over 25 graduates of this program have been hired by companies such as Lockheed Martin, Honeywell, GE Aviation, Jabil and Sypris.

“We have developed these pre-vocational training programs to help solve the skill shortages which have been prevalent for Tampa Bay manufacturing employers for many years,” states Ed Peachey, President and CEO of CareerSource Pinellas and CareerSource Tampa Bay. “The programs also provide the skills and certifications the local workforce needs to find and improve career opportunities.”

New classes for these pre-vocational training programs begin monthly. To learn more visit [www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org](http://www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org).

### **About The Science Center**

The Center is located on seven acres in west St. Petersburg. Each year the Center educates school

children through field trip classes; offers winter, spring and summer workshops; and takes science education courses to the community. To learn more about the Science Center's offerings, visit [www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org](http://www.sciencecenterofpinellas.org).

### **Duke Energy Florida**

Duke Energy Florida owns coal-fired and natural gas generation providing about 9,100 megawatts of owned electric capacity to approximately 1.7 million customers in a 13,000-square-mile service area. With its Florida regional headquarters located in St. Petersburg, Fla., Duke Energy is one of the largest electric power holding companies in the United States. Its regulated utility operations serve approximately 7.4 million electric customers located in six states in the Southeast and Midwest, representing a population of approximately 24 million people. Its Commercial Portfolio and International business segments own and operate diverse power generation assets in North America and Latin America, including a growing portfolio of renewable energy assets in the United States.

Headquartered in Charlotte, N.C., Duke Energy is a Fortune 125 company traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol DUK. More information about the company is available at [duke-energy.com](http://duke-energy.com). The Duke Energy News Center serves as a multimedia resource for journalists and features news releases, helpful links, photos and videos. Hosted by Duke Energy, illumination is an online destination for stories about remarkable people, innovations, and community and environmental topics. It also offers glimpses into the past and insights into the future of energy.

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