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## MEDIA ADVISORY

Tuesday, March 3

## **TDIndustries Kicks off Skilled-Trades Program with Celebration**

ROUND ROCK – TDIndustries and Workforce Solutions Rural Capital Area will host a kickoff celebration of TD's registered apprenticeship program at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 12 in Round Rock. This event will recognize everyone involved in the first merit shop skilled-trades training program in Central Texas. The media is invited.

- **Time/Date:** 2 p.m. Thursday, March 12
- Location: Workforce Solutions of Williamson County, 575 Round Rock West Drive, Building H, Suite 240, Round Rock, TX, 78681
- **Contact at location:** TDIndustries recruiter Markqurnet "Mark" Joseph and Workforce Solutions' Brian Hernandez.

Community leaders will be on hand to speak about this one-of-a-kind program. TD Austin Vice President Nicolas Sfeir and Operations Manager Scott Staton will also speak about this endeavor.

## Background on the apprenticeship program

In a partnership with North Texas' Construction Education Foundation (CEF), TD provides a 20-week training program for HVAC and plumbing employees as their first step of apprenticeship. Participants can learn the basics of pipefitting, plumbing, and sheet metal work in the first course, and receive advanced training in subsequent semesters.

The National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) has certified this program.

The first class began Thursday, Jan. 23 and runs through June 11. Currently, 17 Partners are enrolled in the first semester, and numbers are expected to grow as the program continues. All credits transfer to any region accepting NCCER certification.

"Before we created this program, Central Texas skilled tradespeople had to travel to San Antonio, Dallas, or Houston every week to receive this level of training," said Scott Staton, TD's Austin operations manager. "That's cost- and time-prohibitive for many people seeking to improve their career. We are committed to improving our employees' futures, and this is one great way we can do that."

Staton joined TD's Austin branch from Northern California in 2019. There, he saw the motivation, experience, and education provided by other skilled-trades programs. Similarly, other TDIndustries leaders have long worked with CEF in Dallas, and have recognized the training it provides.

To learn about TDIndustries, visit <u>www.tdindustries.com</u>. To learn more about the Austin skilled trades program, contact Scott Staton at 512-310-5050.