Bellingham Technical College’s welding program earns new accreditation

Here’s a news release from Bellingham Technical College about its welding program. This is significant for Whatcom County, given the number of local manufacturing firms looking for welders in this area.

Bellingham, Washington — February 21, 2014. Bellingham Technical College is pleased to announce that its welding program has been newly accredited as a certified training facility by the American Welding Society. BTC joins Bellingham Technical College as the only college in Washington state and the only college in North America to offer this type of accreditation.

This endorsement allows BTC to perform many different types of welding certifications above and beyond that of Washington Association of Building Officials. BTC is teaching manufacturing skills to students in industry standards which is an added benefit to BTC’s students.

BTC is one of the lead standard of steel welding and construction standards agencies and their certifications are recognized as the most prestigious in the welding industry. BTC is the first school in Whatcom County to receive this new accreditation. Qualifications and demands from other colleges, high schools, and the general industry have increased our flexibility on options in welding career opportunities and demand for local companies, many of which work for projects outside Whatcom County.

“Academics through the American Welding Society will allow Bellingham Technical College to provide students with a more competitive education and give them the skills our industry needs in a graduating work force.” Said Gabriel Beck, BTC Director of Professional Technical Education.

Bellingham Technical College Welding Program. Students choose to specialize in one of three areas: automotive welding and fabrication, metal fabrication, and automation. In our transfer-level welding and fabrication facility, students learn valuable skills that highly-employable students earn through industry safety programs and blueprint reading. This technical skills include: welding, CAD and 3D/CAD, welding BTC stands in hand to prepare students for a career in heavy construction, manufacturing, welding, metal and steel manufacturing, repair, and transportation industries.