ToolingDocs Mold Maintenance Training Successfully Launched in Mexico

ToolingDocs, the leading authority on mold maintenance, just completed its first Level 1 Mold Repair Certification Training class in Mexico. The class was held at Mold-Masters’ Hot Runner Injection Mold Service Center in Toluca, Mexico, and it attracted 34 attendees from 16 injection molding companies.

“A couple of years ago, ToolingDocs hosted mold repair technicians from Mexico in our facility in Ashland, Ohio,” explains Steve Johnson, ToolingDocs’ Operations Manager. “We created a training program that could be taught in both English and Spanish and it went very well. This year, the timing was right for ToolingDocs to bring its mold maintenance certification training to Mexico, and with the help of Ernesto Sosa at Plastec USA and Certified ToolingDocs Trainer Jose Flores, everything came together quickly.”

Sosa, whose company helped promote the class and was also instrumental in securing Mold-Masters’ facility for the training, said it all began with a conversation in March at Plastimagen Mexico, the leading international plastics exhibition and conference in Latin America.

“There are more than 3,600 companies in the plastics industry in Latin America,” explains Sosa. “It made sense for ToolingDocs to bring its unique training program here.”

A Technically Advanced Program

“Although there are several other courses offered in Mexico, the ToolingDocs training program is seen as more technically advanced because it offers proven methodologies that are supported by data,” stated Sosa. “We had a lot of major companies that participated, from automotive to big appliance manufacturers and consumer goods companies. There were local companies as well, of course, which is good; and in fact, we had to turn away 10 companies that wanted to register.”

Mold-Masters was happy to have ToolingDocs utilize its three-year-old, state-of-the-art facility as the training location, according to Graeme Sands, B.Eng. “There is a need for ToolingDocs globally, not just in Mexico,” he asserted. “As fewer companies offer full apprenticeships, the ToolingDocs program provides a consistent and measurable skill set for those involved in mold maintenance.

“For Mold-Masters, the ToolingDocs program brings potential customers into our facility and allows them to see the excellent equipment and repair capabilities we have,” he added.

“The class went very well,” said Flores, who not only assisted with translating class materials but also taught the class. “Participants were very receptive and even though we had people with different levels of experience, every single attendee said they found value in the training and those with more experience enjoyed sharing their knowledge with less experienced attendees and vice versa.

“Atendees at the Level 1 class learn the Eight Stages of Systemized Mold Maintenance, mold disassembly techniques, how to develop and implement an effective mold maintenance plan, basic mold terminology, shop and bench setup considerations, mold tooling component inspection and more,” continued Flores. “There was a lot of interest in hot runner systems and since we were conducting the
class at a Mold-Masters facility we were able to learn how they perform basic maintenance to their manifolds and systems. Another plus was they were able to see a ColdJet cleaning system in action and a technician showed them the benefits of using dry ice to clean molds.

Positive Feedback

ToolingDocs always asks attendees to complete a class evaluation form and offer any suggestions for improvement in addition to sharing what they found to be of value in the class. Attendees of this Level 1 course in Mexico were pleased with the training and said they looked forward to taking the Level 2 Mold Repair Certification Class where there is a lot of hands-on bench work to reinforce all that they learned in the Level 1 curriculum.

“This conference was very informative,” said Frederic Charge of Intec Mexico in Nuevo Leon. “The class showed me how to recognize specific issues that I was not aware of before. Using what I learned, I will be able to improve the organization of my toolroom and develop other methodologies and documentation practices that will result in a more controlled and quality-focused work environment.”

Oscar Sanchez Trejo from Poliuretanos Volcanes, S.A. de C.V. in Morelos, said, “ToolingDocs training opens up the possibilities for the implementation of new procedures for mold repair and pursuing the continuous improvement of our company.”

“This class sparks the interest to improve our mold maintenance operations,” said Rodolfo Cortez V of Thermofisher in Nuevo Leon. “I am looking forward to the next level class and more hands-on training.”

While a Level 2 class has not yet been scheduled for in Mexico, the next Level 1 class will most likely be held in September.

The Level 1 Certification is ideal for Molding Managers, Tooling Engineers, Process Technicians, and mold maintenance personnel who want to increase their knowledge and understanding of necessary, foundational mold repair methodologies and how to develop a systemized maintenance structure within a molding plant.

To find out more about ToolingDocs training programs and services, visit www.toolingdocs.com/train or call 419-281-0790. For information about upcoming certification training in Latin America or South America, contact Plastec USA by calling 305 887-6920.