

Texas Workforce Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: September 2, 2010

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Valero Services Inc. Partners with Coastal Bend College for \$478,716 Job-Training Grant

AUSTIN – Valero Services Inc. has partnered with Coastal Bend College to provide job training using a \$478,716 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

The grant will be used to custom train 297 new and incumbent workers in ways to increase safety, decrease response time to emergencies and expand the number of employees qualified to respond to emergencies. Those trained through the grant will include petroleum pump system operators, industrial machinery mechanics and process shift supervisors. Upon completion of training, the workers will earn an average hourly wage of \$30.01.

“Workforce development and skills training are at the very heart of economic development,” said TWC Director of Workforce Development Larry Jones. “Through the successful partnership of public education and private industry, these grants will provide skills training to upgrade or create nearly 300 jobs in the Coastal Bend region.”

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2009, Skills Development Fund grants created or upgraded 19,516 jobs, which paid an average hourly wage of \$24.44. These grants assisted 170 Texas employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature appropriated \$90 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2010-11 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC Web site at <http://skills.texasworkforce.org>.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call (512) 463-8556 or visit www.texasworkforce.org.