

### Resource Reality

#### Inside this Edition

- ◆ Star State ..... 1
- ◆ Project Plus ..... 1-2
- ◆ Software Scene ..... 2
- ◆ Training Tracker ..... 2
- ◆ National Nexus ..... 3
- ◆ Coming in Next Edition ..... 3



*Beta Testers Needed*

View our customized Florida PowerPoint at [www.v-tecs.org](http://www.v-tecs.org)



Also see Mr. Anderman's Software Tracking Technique



### Star State - Florida Focus

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, V-TECS made its first formal visit to Florida, our newest State Member. This visit consisted of a two-day Statewide V-TECS orientation & training session at Manatee Technical Institute East.

Ken Potthoff & Tim Withee trained Florida Occupational Deans on V-TECS DIRECT & Connect. The training was highly successful and V-TECS is happy to reunite with Florida to bolster Career and Technical Education in the Florida Secondary and Post-Secondary School Systems. We are featuring the State of Florida and the V-TECS-Florida Technical Coordinator, Andy Anderman, because they embody a positive and progressive example of how Member States can work together with V-TECS Staff to provide quality train the trainer workshops.

As the Technical Coordinator for Florida, Mr. Anderman did a superb job of organizing the logistics of this event. We have included an example of how Mr. Anderman employs a software distribution tracking form to ensure user responsibility. Mr. Anderman also made a concerted effort to link Florida's Educational Standards with V-TECS DIRECT and Connect. Read Mr. Anderman's Biography in the V-TECS Online Newsletter.

### Project Plus - Autobody Assessment Alliance



On May 16, 2002, V-TECS entered into a partnership with Burlington Technical Center in Vermont and the Vermont Auto Body Association (VABA) to design and implement a certification system for the Secondary Auto Body Programs in Vermont. Ms. Donna Robert, Cooperative Education Coordinator at Burlington Tech, is our contact person and had already established an alliance between her school and VABA.

Brenda Hattaway met with Ms. Robert and Doug Webster on May 16 to finalize V-TECS' role in the project. On July 1-2, 2002, Brenda, Robyn Marshall, and Melissa Briscoe will meet with a group of auto body professionals to begin work developing an item bank and instructional scenarios.

### Resource Reality

Visit [v-tecs.org](http://v-tecs.org) to read Dr. Joan Wills' new paper,

**New seals of  
Endorsement in  
Career Technical  
Education**

Endorsement

Read this article in full in our V-TECS Online Newsletter at [v-tecs.org](http://v-tecs.org)

See our Beta Testing Team Announcement for V-TECS Connect 2.0

## Project Plus - V-TECS and MICA Alliance

**MICA** We are in the process of completing a contract with Joan Wills of the Institute for Educational Leadership and Manufacturing Industries Careers Alliance (MICA) to use the Taxonomy of Academic Performance Indicators (TAPI) to define the Language Arts, Math, and Science skills for the recently released Manufacturing Skill Standards. The first step involved analyzing and coding the National Skill Standards Board (NSSB) knowledge and skill descriptors using TAPI and then cross walking them to the knowledge and skills that have been identified for the Manufacturing Skill Standards Council (MSSC) critical work functions and key activities.

Dr. Ronald McCage is spearheading the crosswalk. The end product will consist of a Handbook on how to use skill standards. Joining Dr. McCage as chief contributors are Dr. Barbara Border and Dr. Charles Losh.

## Software Scene - Announcing a New Version of V-TECS Connect

V-TECS Connect 2.0 is a breakthrough upgrade of V-TECS' popular work-based learning management software system. As a multi-faceted system, Connect 2.0 has a fresh, bold, new look, as well as added usability and versatility for the end-user. The existing features of V-TECS Connect 1.60 are unchanged but are presented in a flexible platform that enhances the user experience. It runs stand-alone or on a local area network in a true multi-user environment. To assure current users a smooth transition to Connect 2.0, the system has been designed with an infallible import/upgrade process for pre 2.0 datasets.



## Training Tracker - V-TECS Training at U.S. Army Schools

The U. S. Army Training and Doctrine Command has contracted with V-TECS to provide V-TECS DIRECT software and on-site training for 15 different Army schools. To date we have completed five of the training sessions; they have been well received thus far. In fact, it's been so successful that Rebecca Cambell, who is in charge at Fort Bragg, NC, wanted to hire Brenda Hattaway on the spot. How about that?

Dr. William Melton (V-TECS Army Contact) initiated these sessions so that schools would have V-TECS DIRECT and V-TECS Occupational Analysis data as a resource. As a result of our work to date, the trainees have been most interested in the item bank and test generator. Some trainees have also shown interest in linking information from DIRECT to the Army's main training software, Automated Systems Approach to Training (ASAT).



### Resource Reality

*"Career clusters link what students learn in school with the knowledge and skills they need for success in college and careers."*

-Dr. Charles Losh,  
Career Cluster  
Initiative Project  
Director

### IN THE NEXT ISSUE

1. V-TECS DIRECT Prototype Report
2. Report - 62nd V-TECS Board of Director's Meeting
3. Star State - South Carolina
4. Report on V-TECS Exhibit at The Georgia Vocational Association Conference



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## National Nexus - Career Clusters and V-TECS



V-TECS staff member, Dr. Charles Losh is the Career Cluster Initiative Project Director for the 50 States' 11 Career Cluster Initiative recently funded by the U.S. Office of Education, Office of Vocational and Adult Education. A condition of acceptance of the position was that Dr. Losh continue to be an employee of SACS/V-TECS. Consequently, V-TECS entered into a contract with Oklahoma that covers his salary, fringe benefits, and travel. In addition, the contract provides resources to V-TECS for services to the project as well as for the SACS indirect costs for federal activities. Read Dr. McCage's Paper: [V-TECS Framework for Relation Career Clusters, Concentrations, and Occupational Specialties](#) and Dr. Losh's Biography in the V-TECS Online Newsletter.

## National Nexus - V-TECS and The Arts, Audio/Video Technology and Communication Career Cluster Linkages Project



V-TECS is the primary contractor for the USOE/OVAE Arts, Audio/Video Technology Career Cluster Project, which is a 33-month activity. We are currently in Phase II of the project, which is supported at the \$612,000 level. Deliverables include the scope of the cluster, a curriculum framework, a list of knowledge and skills for the foundation as well as the six pathways, and at least one assessment for the foundation. Nine pilot sites have been identified and they are involved in writing over 150 contextual scenarios. As a side benefit to members, a manual for developing scenarios has been drafted and given to you for use in member state. Feedback would be appreciated.

## National Nexus - CNAP and V-TECS Collaboration

Shortly after Charles Losh came to V-TECS, we entered into a couple of contracts with Cisco Systems. The first was aimed at providing linkages services with the National Association of State Directors of Vocational Technical Education. Shortly thereafter, we were asked to help Cisco translate the Cisco Networking Academy Program into a set of duty/task/knowledge and skills statements which were later analyzed to determine the Language Arts, Math, and Science skills embedded in the Cisco material using the Snyder Taxonomy. For the past two years they have provided enough resources for us to analyze and crosswalk the academic standards for up to ten states each year to the Academy standards. By the end of June 2002 we will have done 24 states. In our Online Newsletter, you can read Dr. Losh's Paper: [CNAP Alignment Project](#).