

-- NEWS ADVISORY --

November 13, 2007



**Dan Graham, President**  
(503) 256-7300  
dan@nwcoc.com  
www.nwcoc.com

## **NEW PLAYGROUND FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATORS' TRAINING**

Salem, OR – Construction workers learning how to operate heavy equipment through the Northwest College of Construction have just landed a new venue to practice their craft. The “playground” was donated by Advantage Precast, Inc. to be used for the purpose of training NWCC’s students. It is an eight acre industrial plot located in north Salem, between 1-5 and Salem Parkway.

As an accompaniment to classroom time on such topics as construction math, employment skills and blueprint reading, students take to the field to practice the techniques on a variety of machines – such as bulldozers, backhoes, excavators and rollers. The college serves hundreds of apprentices who make a 160-hour commitment, as well as open enrollment students, usually existing workers, who are looking for some supplemental education.

To deliver this kind of hands-on curriculum, NWCC was in need of critical space. Rick Day, chairman and CEO of Advantage Precast and active board member of the local chapter of the National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA), was eager to help the program in any way he could. NWCC’s Director of Education Tim Mosterdyke explains, *“Having a location for our students to practice their training in a safe, hands-on environment is key to their successful education.”* In addition to providing the facility for the students’ education, Advantage Precast allows NWCC to borrow any equipment on site and use the concrete products Advantage produces.

NWCC President Dan Graham acknowledges the donation as a clear representation of how various members of the industry are coming together to make the college a top-notch educational institution. *“There is a strong demand for quality workers in the construction industry – and employees can make good money in their craft. A graduate of NWCC’s Heavy Equipment Operator program can anticipate making \$20-30hour.”*

To learn more visit [www.nwcoc.com](http://www.nwcoc.com), or to take a tour of the campus please contact NWCC at 503.256-7300.

--end--