## Help Wanted: Building Jobs in America

## Skilled Manufacturing Workers Needed to Support the U.S. Boating Industry

Recreational boating is proudly made in America. However, many of our companies are struggling to find and retain qualified workers who will continue to ensure that America remains the gold standard in the manufacturing of recreational boats, marine engines and marine parts, accessories and components.

U.S. marine manufacturing supports:

650,014 JOBS

**34,833 BUSINESSES** 

▶ 95% of boats sold in the U.S. are made in the U.S





## **ACTIONS FOR LEADERS TO TAKE**

## 1 Help America Develop a More Skilled Workforce.

The recreational boating industry stands ready to hire a new generation of workers into stable and well-paying careers.

- Reauthorize and modernize the Perkins Act so that state governments are empowered to address local Career and Technical Education (CTE) needs.
- Expand Pell eligibility to short-term post secondary certificates and demand driven non-credit programs.
- ▶ Improve funding of community colleges and technical schools.
- Support apprenticeships and other workbased learning programs.
- ▶ Improve and retain employer incentive programs for hiring and training veterans.

- 2 Create a modernized, pro-business immigration system that works.
  - Implement high-skilled visa reforms, including increasing green cards, temporary visas and making improvements to existing programs.
  - Create a program for workers who are not categorized as highly-skilled.
  - Have a secure compliance system in place to ensure employers have confidence they are hiring legal workers.

The boating industry is facing a shortfall of qualified workers for manufacturing, technicians, and service repairs.

Prioritizing technical, vocational and apprenticeship programs and connecting the marine industry with federal and state programs is the key to job growth and employment in marine manufacturing and retail.