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Ground-breaking "Green Initiative" Partnership Formed to Create Green Construction Jobs

Carpenters Union, Stock Roofing and Summit Academy OIC will help those re-entering workforce by providing scalable, skilled labor for green building construction

St. Paul, Minn. (July 21, 2010) – The North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters, Stock Roofing LLC and Summit Academy OIC announce a new "Green Initiative" partnership to pursue green construction projects across Minnesota and employ skilled workers re-entering the workforce.

Under this unique partnership, graduates from Summit Academy OIC, who come from the most economically depressed neighborhoods in the Twin Cities, are trained in a skilled vocation and employed by Stock Roofing, a local, innovative contractor that has worked on such projects as the Target Center's green roof and, most recently, the remodel of the St. Paul fire station on Randolph and West Seventh Street.. As part of the agreement, Stock Roofing employees will join the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters, where they will participate in a state-of-the-art apprenticeship program that will help students become journey-level carpenters.

"The Green Initiative with Stock Roofing and Summit will mean that Summit graduates will get good-paying jobs, leading to a great career through our Carpenters' apprenticeship program," said James Moore, executive secretary-treasurer for the North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters. "We're excited to partner with this innovative company and this important community asset."

Minneapolis Mayor R.T. Rybak noted, "I'm very pleased about the smart, new partnership between Stock Roofing and the Carpenters, which is a great example of the principles of investing in people and investing in innovation that guide our job-creation work at the City of Minneapolis. Working together with Summit, the Carpenters and Stock Roofing are helping Minneapolis residents both to train for and get good, 21st-century jobs in green construction and to take advantage of the benefits and long-term career advancement that membership in the Carpenters provides.

"Both Stock Roofing and the Carpenters have been strong partners with the City of Minneapolis and as they join forces, I am sure they will be even stronger partners with us going forward," Mayor Rybak continued.

"This represents a significant step for Stock Roofing, Summit and the Carpenters Union to help close hiring gaps that exist in this community," said Louis King, president and CEO of Summit Academy OIC. "We believe in strong companies, strong labor opportunities and strong career paths, and we think this partnership accomplishes all three."

"I couldn't be more confident about the future of this partnership," said Warren Stock, president, Stock Roofing. "It's a win-win situation that brings us skilled new employees and allows us to expand upon our leading-edge, green construction services. Our communities and our environment will flourish."

About The North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters

The North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters represents 18,000 Union members in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Regional Council is part of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. Website is www.northcountrycarpenter.org.

About Stock Roofing

Founded in 1988 and based in Fridley, Minn., Stock Roofing is a recognized leader in green roofs and environmental solution construction for projects across Minnesota and the upper Midwest. Stock Roofing is known for its dependable service and quality. From roofing services on small businesses to large, Fortune 500 companies and government buildings to condos, townhomes and residential services, Stock Roofing tackles a broad range of projects. See: www.stockroofing.com.

About Summit Academy OIC

Summit Academy OIC (SAOIC) is a nonprofit educational and vocational training center that empowers adults residing in the most economically depressed neighborhoods in the Twin Cities to become educated, employed, contributing members of the community. Focused on high-demand, high-growth industries, Summit's results-oriented programs effect long-term change. Summit graduates are skilled and motivated workers who can stop drawing public assistance and start caring for their families, paying taxes and helping to stabilize and vitalize their communities. For more information, visit: www.saoic.org.