



MANUFACTURING  
SKILL STANDARDS  
COUNCIL

# NATION'S GOLD STANDARD

**Certified Production Technician 4.0 (CPT®)**

**Certified Logistics Technician 4.0 (CLT®)**

**Certified Forklift Technician (CFT®) Certified  
Technician Supply Chain Automation  
(CTSCA™)**

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## National Leadership

**National Leadership:** An industry-led, 501(c)(3) non-profit, MSSC is America's leader in training and certifying the foundational technical competencies for front-line technicians (entry-level up to first line supervisory) for in-demand, higher wage, higher skills jobs in advanced manufacturing & logistics.

**Federal Endorsement:** Officially endorsed in 1998 by the federal National Skill Standards Board as the industry group responsible for industry-defined national skill standards and related certification for entry-level production technicians in all sectors of manufacturing. No other organization received the NSSB endorsement.

**Internationally Accredited:** MSSC is the only American industry certification program accredited under ISO Standard 17024 (Personnel Certification) and endorsed by NAM for manufacturing and logistics. Also, used by the U.S. Departments of Labor, Education, Justice, the Armed Services, VA, and Job Corps.

**Federally-recognized Standards:** Developed initial MSSC Production Standards with assistance of leading corporations, all industrial unions, 4000 front-line technicians, and 400 educational organizations at a cost of \$9.5 million in public private funds. NSSB officially recognized standards in 2001, which provided substantive basis for CPT 4.0.

**First in Front-Line Supply Chain Logistics:** Secured federal funds in 2007 to build the first-ever industry-led national standards, certifications and training system for front-line material handling and distribution technicians (CLT).

**"Hands On":** MSSC offers a "CPT+" certification option using an innovative Amatrol "Skill Boss" hands-on training and testing device. [Skill Boss Manufacturing Brochure](#). MSSC also offers an Amatrol hands-on training device for its CTSCA program. [Skill Boss Logistics Brochure](#).

**Includes Employability Skills:** CPT 4.0 & CLT cover good conduct, teamwork, communications, and problem-solving.

***Pioneer in Apprenticeships:*** CPT 4.0 is embedded in the 3000-hour U.S. DoL-registered Industrial Manufacturing Technician (IMT) Apprenticeship and has a 720-hour DOL-Approved Quality Pre-apprenticeship for high school students.

## National Impact

***Available Nationwide:*** All MSSC Certifications available nationwide through 3,328 MSSC-trained instructors, 2,006 MSSC-authorized test sites, mostly at colleges and secondary schools, and 72 MSSC Reps in all 50 states. Some 297,336 Assessments delivered, 213,640 Credentials issued, to 121,585 Individuals. [Infrastructure Report](#).

***Broad Industry Participation:*** Since 1999, some 640 leading corporations and national trade associations have participated in the development and review of MSSC National Production or Logistics Standards. [Company Direct Participants List](#). For some current examples of companies using MSSC in workforce skills enhancement, see [MSSC Corporate Uses](#).

***Applies to 12+ Million Jobs:*** 6.2 m. front-line manufacturing production and 5.8 m. material handling-distribution jobs.

***Military Programs:*** MSSC has established 40 Assessment Centers on military installations and has registered 176 military-friendly centers at community colleges, issuing credentials to over 8000 active duty military and vets. MSSC CPT integrated into the successful NAM “Heroes Make America” program at five Army bases.

***Incarcerated Programs:*** MSSC certifications are being used in 75 federal, state and local correctional facilities.

## Quality Assurance

***Third-Party Approved:*** In addition to its ISO Accreditation and NAM endorsement, MSSC certifications meet all of the 1998 quality assurance criteria for both certifications and apprenticeships recommended by the National Network of Business and Industry Associations, managed by the Business Roundtable. [Quality Assurance Criteria](#). MSSC certifications also meet the 2021 12 quality assurance criteria published by the Coalition for Career Development. [CCD Quality Assurance Criteria](#).

***Biennially Updated:*** Updates standards biennially with industry subject matter experts to ensure that MSSC Standards are keeping pace with technological changes – e.g. AI, 5G, 3D Printing, Industrial Internet of Things, Nanotechnology, Autonomous Robots, Augmented Reality, Data Analytics, and Advanced Materials.

**Enjoys high success rates:** MSSC CPT 4.0 and CLT 4.0 certificants have excellent job placement rates and demonstrated success in moving up the education and career ladders in a manufacturing or logistics career pathway.

**Stackable:** Under the NAM-endorsed Skills Certification System, MSSC CPT 4.0 is at the foundational level with ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC), with the other Founding Partners of that System—NIMS, AWS, SME—stacked on top of MSSC's foundation skills certification.

## Unique Benefits

**Preparation of the next generation frontline work force:** Inclusion of the "Industry 4.0" technologies in the CPT 4.0 certification is preparing the production technicians for a future of accelerating digitization of manufacturing.

**High Employer ROI:** [ROI for employers](#) includes reduced turnover; lower recruitment costs; better performance in safety, quality, cycle time, maintenance; higher job preparedness.

**Delivered and Customized Locally:** Provides authoritative national standards and portable industry certifications that are implemented and customized at the community level in many different ways to meet specific local needs.

**Timely and cost-effective for students:** Individual CPT 4.0 and CLT 4.0 credentials can be secured in 40 hours each with the tuition costs to students for the total 160 hours (4 CPT 4.0 Modules) at a community college typically under \$2500.

**Articulates well between high schools and college:** CPT 4.0 and CLT 4.0 provide a strong start in high school on a career pathway in manufacturing or logistics, which often secures dual credit for moving into community college.

**Easily integrated into apprenticeships, internships:** CPT 4.0 and CLT 4.0 are ideal foundations for any "work and learn" program: apprenticeships, summer internships, "boot camps," advanced tech centers, Amatrol hard trainers.

**Facilitates data collection and improved accountability:** MSSC keeps careful records of student progress and achievement and is thus a frequent partner with state agency accountability programs.

**Secures a pipeline of certified entry-level technicians:** Reduces recruitment, remedial training costs, and increases performance of new technicians. At no cost, companies need only state, "MSSC Preferred" in job listings.

**Builds core skills of incumbent technicians:** Benchmark them against national standards and scores.

**Reduces turnover:** CPT 4.0 and CLT certificants are more motivated, confident, committed, and comfortable working in multi-task, high performance workplaces.