

6: Creating an Industry Career Map with Guest Joe Sarubbi

Guest Joe Sarubbi from the Interstate Renewable Energy Council shares why and how IREC created an interactive career map for the solar energy and climate control industries. Such tools can demonstrate career paths and the extent of opportunity within an industry. This episode builds upon the conversation about career pathways and stackable credentials from Episode 5 with Neil Reddy, CEO of the Manufacturing Skills Standards Council (MSSC).

The interactive solar and climate control career maps provide robust information for individuals, including job demand, training information, and training locations. Ultimately, these tools provide awareness and the ability to explore available opportunities that individuals would not necessarily find otherwise. It's powerful to have the opportunity to see the types of career paths, determine if there is interest, and then explore which local educational institutions support the career path.

Not to mention, professionals in human resources, workforce development, and education can take advantage of the plethora of resources within the map to help individuals determine a career path that makes sense for them. The opportunities are endless for developing similar maps within other sectors such as health, power engineering, energy storage, heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), and much more.

“If you look at advancements in technology and learning and training, we have nothing but to look forward in terms of the future [of manufacturing].”
-Joe Sarubbi

Joe's best advice to individuals is to "explore, explore, explore –that's the fun of it!" because you can't be what you can't see. Tune into episode 6 for the whole story.

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About Neil Reddy

Joe is a nationally recognized thought leader and consultant with 45 years of experience, specializing in technical education, training, and workforce development. Recently, Joe was consulting for the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC), serving as Project Manager for two national Department of Energy initiatives – the Solar Instructor Training Network (SITN), and Grid Engineering for Accelerated Renewable Energy Deployment (GEARED).

Joe was a college professor and department chair for building systems technologies, and the main architect of TEC-SMART, the country's first totally integrated Training and Education Center for Semi-Conductor Manufacturing and Alternative and Renewable Technologies, and in 2009 was honored by the visit of President Obama in which the President recognized his work in developing "model programs" for other institutions to emulate.

Joe is a Board Member of NABCEP (North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners) and has also testified on two occasions regarding renewable energy training programs and workforce policy before the U.S. Congress. He has advised numerous institutions and organizations regarding technical education and energy workforce development, and in 2009 traveled to South America at the request of the US Department of State to advise South American governments on renewable energy workforce development.