METALFORMING—MUCH MORE THAN A JOB
Learn How Metalformers Support the World of Industry
A CAREER IN METALFORMING

The planes that let us fly. The boards that let us skate. In just your home alone, at least 150,000 items are manufactured by the metalforming industry. It’s not just the items we enjoy, but the items we need. The locks on our doors, the refrigerators in our kitchens, and the air bags in our cars. These items owe their existence to metalformers.

WHAT IS METALFORMING?

Do you ever take a look at something metallic and wonder how it takes its shape? It could be something as large as a bulldozer or as small as a paper clip, but metal doesn’t just originate in those forms. Metalformers across the country are responsible for using incredible machinery to give sheetmetal shape. Whether you’re stamping, fabricating, spinning, slide or roll forming, metalformers are building blocks for products that we depend on each and every day.

Most of us want our career to mean something. We want the end result of our hard work to make a difference. You may think of doctors and nurses, police officers and firemen, or inventors and innovators as the individuals who accomplish those goals. But there is one person on whom all of those individuals’ abilities hinge—a manufacturer. In some way, every one of those careers depends on a manufactured or metalformed item. Do you want to make a difference, save lives and change the world? Think about a career in metalforming.

This isn’t metal magic or easy work. Metalforming requires a highly defined skill set that manufacturers across the country are seeking.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CAREER</th>
<th>AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Press Brake Technician</td>
<td>$55,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roll Forming Machine Technician</td>
<td>$58,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Spinning Machine Programmer</td>
<td>$75,017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNC Machine Programmer</td>
<td>$77,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automatic Press Technician</td>
<td>$54,300</td>
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*Based on national industry average data of reporting companies in PMA’s 2018 Wage & Benefit Report. Based on a 50-hour week (with time-and-a-half calculated after 40 hours). Specific wages vary by region and employer.
METALFORMERS MANUFACTURE THE ITEMS YOU NEED AND USE... EVERY. SINGLE. DAY.

STEPS TO A CAREER
Those who pursue a career in metalforming don’t just help others, but also help themselves. Individuals have early earning potential and can be paid in apprenticeship or internship programs while they are in school or immediately upon graduation. The skills you learn in metalforming are valuable no matter where you live, and the careers often come with essential benefits like health care, paid vacation and tuition reimbursement.

“Apprenticeship is the other college — except without the debt.” – U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez

BECOME THE BEST IN THE TRADE
If you are going to commit to a career, strive to be the best. To become the best metalformer, you must be certified by the National Institute of Metalworking Skills. NIMS-certified metalformers represent the best in the field, and these certifications can make you an asset to any manufacturer. Learn more about training and obtaining NIMS certifications or find out which local schools offer training.

Q: What is your training or education background?
A: I earned a career/tech certificate in Metalforming and an associate’s degree in Business Administration. I have been working in the metalforming industry for more than seven years, and have experience in a variety of positions, including punch press set-up/set-in/operator, press brake set-up/set-in/operator, spotwelder set-up/set-in/operator, CNC operator, internal auditor-AS9100C:2009 and pressroom lead.

Q: What attracted you to a career in the industry?
A: I began in the industry with the sole intention of earning a paycheck to support myself and my son. Within about a month of performing this work I had realized that I just had a natural “knack” for doing and understanding the work, and basically, fell in love with it. I looked forward to what new things I would learn and do each day and have always enjoyed learning the role of each part I’ve helped to make. It’s been rewarding to see final results in everything I’ve done.

Q: Would you recommend a career in the metalforming industry to others and why?
A: I would definitely recommend a career in the metalforming industry. I believe that this industry plays a key role in our lifestyles and in the world around us. There are many things that each of us utilize and enjoy every day that come from some type of metalforming work. I have found the metalforming industry to be truly fascinating and look forward to what my career will bring in the future.

KENDRA CLARK
Pressroom Lead
Dayton Rogers of Ohio

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KENDRA CLARK
Pressroom Lead
Dayton Rogers of Ohio
Precision Metalforming Association
6363 Oak Tree Blvd.
Independence, OH 44131
(216) 901-8800
www.pma.org

The Manufacturing Institute
733 10th Street NW,
Washington DC 20001
(202) 637-3426
www.themanufacturinginstitute.org

Funded through a grant from the
PMA Educational Foundation