

**For Immediate Release**

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**Flexo Concepts® Takes Advantage of Massachusetts Training Grant and Applies Funds to FIRST Operator Certification**

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**Plymouth, MA, October 31, 2016.** Flexo Concepts employees have recently completed Level I of *FTA FIRST Operator Certification* in order to become flexographic printing “experts.” The training was made possible by a Massachusetts Express Grant designed to fund workforce education in the state.

Created and administered by the FTA, *FIRST Operator Certification* is an online training program through which participants gain a complete mastery of the flexographic printing process. The program offers three certifications: *FIRST Press Operator*, *FIRST Prepress Operator* and *FIRST Implementation Specialist*. Flexo Concepts chose the latter which is designed for supervisors, managers and non-production personnel such as suppliers of flexo products and services.

The company applied for funding for the training through the Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund Express Program, named for its easy one-step, online approval process. “In fact it was Flexo Concepts that encouraged FTA to add their *FIRST Certification* training to this program,” said Duane Woolbright, FTA Training Specialist. He added, “The training has been vetted by the state and is now part of their approved manufacturing training and certification curriculum.”

Flexo Concepts encourages other flexo printers and suppliers in Massachusetts to apply for the Express Grant to take advantage of this training. The company plans to continue with the next two levels of Implementation Specialist training and ultimately achieve *FIRST Company Certification*.

For more information about *FIRST* training, contact Duane Woolbright at dwoolbright@flexography.org or Kenneth Theriot at ktheriot@flexoconcepts.com. To learn more about the Express Grant, go to http://workforcetrainingfund.org/programs/express-program/.

Visit http://www.flexoconcepts.com for more information about Flexo Concepts or http://www.flexoconcepts.com/media/ to access a complete press kit.

**About Flexo Concepts**

Headquartered in Plymouth, Massachusetts, Flexo Concepts manufactures TruPoint® doctor blades and wash-up blades and MicroClean™ dry media anilox cleaning systems. All products are designed to improve print quality and reduce operational costs for flexographic and offset printers. Flexo Concepts maintains distribution locations in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. For more information about the company and its products visit http://www.flexoconcepts.com/. For regular updates, follow Flexo Concepts on Facebook and Twitter.