

For Immediate Release



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Amazon Web Services, Sumitomo Electric Lightwave, and Augusta Technical College Collaborate on New Fusion Splicing Certificate Course

Course provides training on new hyperscale-grade fusion splicing techniques and equipment, career networking opportunities.

Augusta, GA - November 1, 2022

College President Dr. Jermaine Whirl announced that Augusta Technical College hosted a Fusion Splicing Certificate Course, a collaborative training event with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Sumitomo Electric Lightwave that earned participants an innovative fiber optic fusion splicing certificate. Twenty-nine individuals took part in the October 5 - 7 course, which offered training on cutting-edge technologies and equipment and covered fiber optic installation and repair. Sumitomo Electric's world-class experts led the instruction in fiber optic technologies. The program also includes a career networking event to connect students and potential employers.

AWS is driving fiber optic cable innovation at a rapid pace, resulting in frequent releases of new hyperscale products and solutions, which represent the next generation of fiber optic networks and require training on state-of-the-art equipment to install and operate. Identifying this need to train workers for today and the future, AWS and Sumitomo Electric Lightwave are working together to host Fusion Splicing Certificate Courses at local community colleges across the United States.

Fusion splicing is the joining of two optical fibers to create a continuous light path, carrying data to technologies such as phones, internet, and television. Through lectures and hands-on lessons, students will become familiar with deploying a passive optical fiber network infrastructure. They will learn real-world deployment techniques with tools ranging from hand tools to state-of-the-art automated fusion splicing technology.

Sumitomo Electric Lightwave (SEL) is a recognized leader in optical fiber technologies and solutions for data center, enterprise, and communication networks. Drawing from research and development from its parent company, Sumitomo Electric Industries, Sumitomo Electric Lightwave offers a variety of advanced products in ribbon technology, air-blown fiber, fusion splicing, and connectivity solutions including splice-on connectors.

“AWS has long believed in the power of skills training and its positive, long-term impact on our employees, customers, partners, and communities,” said Roger Wehner, Director of Economic Development for AWS. “Through the AWS Fusion Splicing course, we’re thrilled to help open new opportunities and career pathways for participants. Technicians skilled in installing and repairing fiber optics will be prepared to perform the critical jobs building the infrastructure needed to wire the country for the digital world.”

"AWS is an important supplier of cloud services for managing data, and this past year we collaborated in the development of our Cloud Computing and Solutions Degree, which prepares the student to be an entry-level cloud computing professional," stated Tammy O'Brien, Academic Dean of the School of Cyber and Design Media.

Click [here](#) to view event photos.

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About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit augustatech.edu.

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