



National Marine Electronics Association

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For Immediate Release

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NMEA ANNOUNCES COLLABORATION WITH VETERANS FLORIDA TO BRING NEW TALENT INTO MARINE ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY

SEVERNA PARK, MD—The National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) has announced a collaboration with Veterans Florida to help the marine electronics industry-wide labor shortage by bringing in qualified veterans who are looking for a career after exiting their military service.

“Florida has the largest marine industry of any state, along with the largest membership demographic for NMEA,” said Mark Reedenauer, NMEA President & Executive Director. “As we talk with member companies, finding quality employees is their top challenge, and has been since 2020. We looked towards an organization where work ethic, structure, respect, and loyalty were at the top of the list, and Veterans Florida checks all those boxes.”

Veterans Florida offers the following services at no charge to NMEA member companies who are located in Florida:

Workforce Recruiting matches veterans’ and their spouses’ skillsets to your requirements. They receive hundreds of resumes each month and do the heavy lifting of screening and matching top talent for your job openings. Their team of recruiters know how to review military resumes with you and find job matches based on skills gained while in the service.

The Veterans Florida *Workforce Training Grant* reimburses qualified employers 50% of industry skills-based training costs for new or current employees. It’s easy to get started. Your dedicated point of contact at Veterans Florida will walk you through the process step by step.

The third offering is the Florida *SkillBridge Initiative*. The U.S. Department of Defense SkillBridge Program enables service members within 6 months of retirement or separation and with their commanders’ approval to gain workforce training at an employer. NMEA member manufacturers and dealers may improve their workforces at no cost, as DOD maintains the servicemembers’ salary and benefits during the training period. Veterans Florida guides employers through developing training, obtaining DOD approval, and recruiting SkillBridge participants.

NMEA members in Florida interested in these services should contact VETS Program Director Jeremy Sinnemaki at sinnemaki@veteransflorida.org.

About the NMEA

Founded in 1957, the NMEA has led the way in establishing technical standards for data exchange in marine electronics, with the widely accepted NMEA 0183 data protocol, NMEA 2000® and certification standards for marine electronics technicians. NMEA standards and programs focus on ensuring that the boating consumer is provided with reliable products and professional service. For more information, visit the NMEA website at www.NMEA.org or call (410) 975-9425.

About Veterans Florida

Veterans Florida is a non-profit created by the State of Florida to help military veterans and their families transition to civilian life and to promote Florida's status as the nation's most veteran-friendly state under *Florida's Veterans Employment and Training Services (VETS) Program*. Their mission can be summed up in the theme – Your Pursuit. Our Power. – because they recognize military veterans are incredibly focused and will succeed in achieving their personal and professional goals when they take advantage of their tools and resources. Visit veteransflorida.org for more information and follow them on [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) for updates on veteran opportunities in Florida.