

# STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

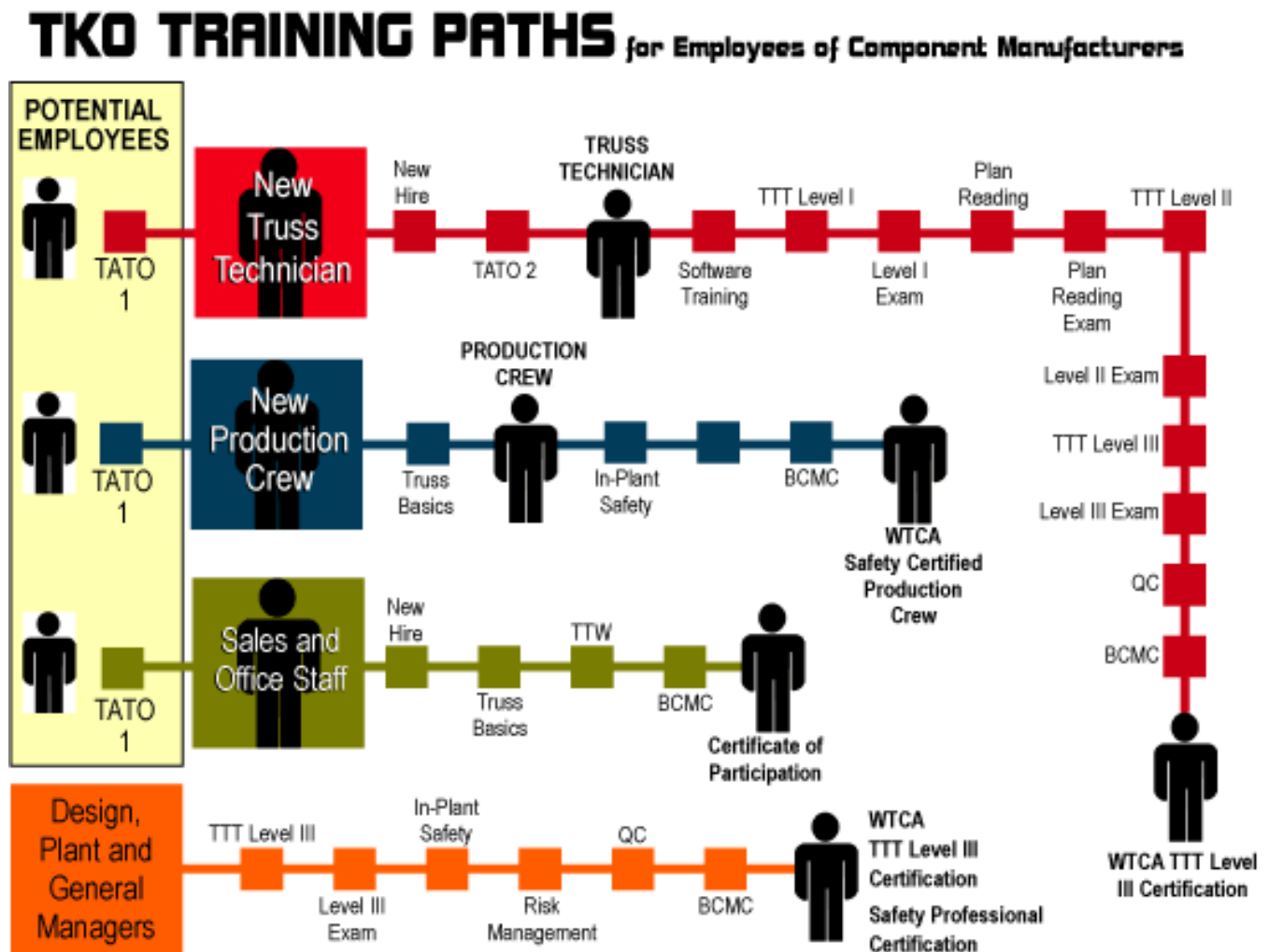
August 2003

## Your Educational Roadmap—Truss Knowledge Online (TKO) by SBC Staff

Attention component manufacturers! You go through the same old song and dance every time you hire: What on earth do you do to get them acclimated to their new atmosphere?

Stop losing sleep over this dilemma and take a proactive approach to training new hires with the Truss Knowledge Online (TKO) Training Paths. With four training paths outlined to accommodate any new member of your staff, TKO makes it easy to expand their knowledge at their own pace, on their own time.

Below are the four training paths that include a progression of recommended training for your new hire, depending on their job description: crucial safety training, quality control training, details on risk management and various seminars to introduce them to the industry. Visit [www.wtcatko.com](http://www.wtcatko.com) for training details.



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

BCMC: Seminars from the 2002 Building Component Manufacturer's Conference. View or review the

Economic Forecast; Annual Meeting; Keynote Address; Sales; Technical; Production; and Insurance and Risk Management; or download the seminar handouts.

**In-Plant Safety:** This new program designed for the truss industry will launch in Fall 2003. Plant management and personnel have access to online multi-media training modules that aid in the development, implementation and maintenance of a comprehensive in-house program.

**New Hire:** An introductory training course for anyone with little or no truss industry experience. This program gives participants an excellent grounding in the industry with ten units of material that can be reviewed at any pace.

**QC:** The In-Plant WTCA QC program helps truss manufacturers monitor the quality of trusses they manufacture in order to comply with ANSI/TPI 1-2002. View the In-Plant WTCA QC information and presentation at [www.woodtruss.com/wtcaqc.php](http://www.woodtruss.com/wtcaqc.php) and then schedule a private training at your plant.

**Risk Management:** Currently in the development stage, this online program will further educate truss manufacturers on the liabilities of conducting business and methods for minimizing exposure to loss. Kent Pagel, WTCA's general counsel, is developing and will present this material.

**Software Training:** WTCA does not provide training on any specific truss design software packages. Truss Manufacturers should contact their metal connector plate supplier or truss design software provider to get more information on the availability of this training.

**TATO 1:** Technical Assessment Test Online 1 is a hiring tool for technical personnel. It evaluates basic math and 3-D visualization skills without calculators or design software. Managers get instant feedback to compare to other test results or to national averages.

**TATO 2:** - Technical Assessment Test Online 2, an advanced truss industry test, is useful for quantifying design department skills and clarifying training priorities (available online soon).

**Truss Basics:** Is a simplified version of TTT Level I with less time-intensive Truss Math and Load Development sections. It was developed with salespeople in mind and is best suited for anyone who wants to understand truss design procedures but will not be performing truss design.

**TTT Level I:** Introduces truss technicians to design and engineering fundamentals. Students view presentations and learn about factors affecting truss design from specification to installation. Students who pass the TTT Level I Exam achieve Level I Certification.

**TTT Level II:** Introduces advanced concepts of math and load development. Students view presentations and standards like ANSI/TPI 1, NDS®, and ASCE 7; and perform calculations. Students who pass the TTT Level II Exam achieve Level II Certification.

**TTT Level III:** This four-day classroom seminar provides discussion of current technical issues. Each day different industry professionals lead discussions in a focused setting. Students who pass the TTT Level III Exam achieve Level III Certification.

**TTT Plan Reading:** This four-day classroom seminar develops plan reading skills for truss technicians and salespeople. Students learn terminology, symbols, scales, layouts, and truss and material take-offs. Students review real residential and commercial plans with a focus on factors that affect truss design.

TTW: Truss Technology Workshops are short courses on truss and wood construction that earn attendees continuing education credits. See the TKO site ([www.wtcatko.com](http://www.wtcatko.com)) for a complete list of workshop topics.

## TRAINING FOR INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

TKO also offers three training paths for affiliated industry professionals. Two groups—suppliers and architects/engineers—will participate in a TTW and the Truss Basics course, then follow-up with BCMC seminars. Upon completion of the track, suppliers will receive a certification of participation while architects, engineers, inspectors, contractors and framers will receive continuing education requirements (CEUs) to maintain their professional license. The third path, meant for insurance brokers, will participate in a TTW as well as Truss Basics. They will receive a certificate of participation upon completion of the track.

Whatever your new hire's training needs, TKO presents the most up-to-date, economical, convenient and effective education and training programs you and your new staff member.

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