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Press Release

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New Year, New Dorm for AVTEC Students

SEWARD, Alaska—AVTEC students will be starting the 2014 school year in a brand-new dorm on Third Avenue in Seward. Students will begin moving in to the new 120-bed facility on Saturday, with classes beginning on Jan. 6.

“The new residential facility represents AVTEC’s focus on providing Alaskans with world class training leading to great careers,” AVTEC Director Fred Esposito said. “Providing facilities that are conducive to studying and inviting to live in compliments AVTEC’s quality training and reinforces the value of a post-secondary career and technical education.”

A former dorm built in the late 1960s was razed last March to make room for the new dorm, which was built in innovative modules to reduce costs. The modules were constructed off-site in a controlled environment, which also allowed the project to be completed faster. It took just 74.5 hours to install the 39 modules on the AVTEC campus before interior and exterior finish work could begin. A time-lapse “dorm-cam” captured progress during construction and is still available online at AVTEC.edu/ThirdAveCam.htm.

The 35,000-square-foot facility was built by the same team responsible for the adjacent AVTEC Alaska Culinary Academy building – a collaboration of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development’s AVTEC, the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Cornerstone General Contractors and Nvision Architecture. The team received an AIA Alaska Merit Award and AGC of Alaska Meeting the Challenge Award for the adjacent AVTEC Alaska Culinary Academy.

A part of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, AVTEC has a rich history of providing Alaska employers with well-trained and skilled technicians, ship captains, professional cooks and bakers, welders, practical nurses, mechanics and electricians, among other professions.

“For more than 40 years, AVTEC has trained students in programs such as oil and gas, mining, hospitality, transportation, construction, healthcare, information technology – and now renewable energy,” Esposito said. “We can train Alaskans for a career in less than a year.”

AVTEC also offers about 60 short-term training programs that take from one to six weeks to complete. AVTEC’s main campus is in Seward, with its Allied Health program in Anchorage.

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