



Therafin Corporation

Therafin Corporation, a family business located in Mokena, was founded in 1968 and manufactures medical equipment. The company supplies thousands of products to the rehabilitation market all over the world. Therafin has become known industry wide for its innovation, quality and willingness to meet current needs in a difficult marketplace.

When Therafin expanded its product line and made related investments in new equipment and software, they recognized the need to upgrade employee skills. The company had expanded their product line to include not only wheelchair accessories and parts but also customized seating systems designed to meet the medical and practical needs of their customers and manufactured to specification.

To support the new product line, Therafin expanded its sewing personnel and machinery. Along with the new machinery, came added responsibility for proper maintenance and upkeep. A third area of improvement was acquisition of billing software that allows the company to generate appropriately detailed documentation to support customer reimbursement from differing types of funding sources with unique requirements. The ability to provide customers with this level of documentation enables them to acquire Therafin's products and improve their quality of life.



In developing a training program, Therafin determined what type of training would most impact their "bottom line" and was readily available. One area of training supported with funding through the Workforce Investment Board of Will County provided employees with an understanding of their end users' medical conditions and needs. Employees gained an understanding of how mobility and comfort can be significantly impacted through adjustments in the seating system. The training increased their sensitivity to the importance of adhering to production specifications. A second area of training addressed maintenance and use of sewing equipment. When one machine goes down, it can stop production. The company was dependent on a single outside resource for repairs – delaying production for as long as 4 weeks. Now four people can identify and address routine repairs and maintenance resulting in a huge cost savings and increased productivity. A third area of training, educating staff on how to use newly acquired software, has resulted in significant cost savings and increased efficiency. Company personnel can now generate customized reports and documentation needed by customers rather than outsourcing this function.



Todd Fink, President of Therafin Corporation said, "The Business Grants for Employee Training Program allowed us to get training for our workers that we could not otherwise have afforded. The process of applying for funds forced us to define what we really needed in terms of improving our workforce's skills and what would benefit our operation the most. I would definitely recommend this program to other businesses."



214 North Ottawa Street • Joliet, IL 60432
ph 815.727.5670 • fx 815.727.5669
www.willcountyworkforceboard.com

