NEWS RELEASE

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MANUFACTURING "UNCONFERENCE" COMING TO ST. CHARLES COUNTY

ST. CHARLES COUNTY, MO --- ProductCamp, a user-driven, collaborative "unconference" geared toward those who build, design, market or manage a product or service, is coming to St. Charles County. The event is scheduled for 12-5 p.m., Friday, October 14 in the Taylor Automotive Center at Ranken Technical College – Wentzville, 751 Parr Road. A networking session starts at 12 p.m., with the program beginning at 1 p.m.

This is the first time for the event in St. Charles County. It started in Silicon Valley in 2008, and is now an international movement.

Unlike a traditional conference, there is no planned agenda. Those in attendance vote on sessions from submissions received in advance, and the agenda is set just before ProductCamp begins. Those interested in giving a session can submit a brief overview for consideration by participants. Hence the term, "unconference." Participants drive the program, and are expected to contribute before and during ProductCamp.

"ProductCamp St. Charles County 2016 is the perfect opportunity for manufacturers and others to get the answers they need from peers and local experts to help move their businesses forward," said Scott J. Drachnik, director of the St. Charles County Department of Workforce & Business Development. "These kind of peer-driven, collaborative events are changing the nature of how modern business owners and new startups are finding innovative solutions, developing new products and services, expanding market share and connecting with others. Those looking for an agenda that's 'etched in stone' won't find it at ProductCamp."

Registration for ProductCamp is $20 per person and space is limited to 100 attendees. Additionally, exhibit booth space is available for $100 per business or group and event sponsorships are $200. Sign-ups are underway at www.growmanufacturing.org.

ProductCamp St. Charles County 2016 is being organized by the St. Charles County Department of Workforce & Business Development in partnership with St. Louis Makes, Ranken Technical College – Wentzville, the O'Fallon Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Greater St. Charles County Chamber of Commerce, Western St. Charles County Chamber of Commerce, St. Charles Community College, St. Charles Adult & Community Education – Lewis & Clark Career Center, EDC Business & Community Partners, and the City of Wentzville.

For more information, contact Marc Bowers of St. Louis Makes at 314-269-7986 or at mbowers@stlouismakes.com, or Drachnik at 636-255-6060 or sdrachnik@sccmo.org.

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