



CENTRAL COUNTY OCCUPATIONAL CENTER

760 Hillisdale Avenue, San Jose 95136 - 408/723-6400

TRUCK MECHANICS

Michael Cortese, Instructor

TRAINING STUDENTS FOR ENTRY-LEVEL POSITIONS SUCH AS:

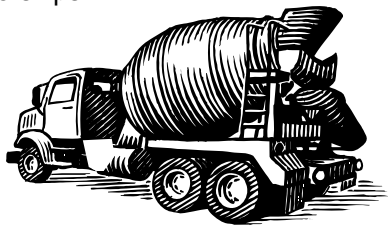
- Heavy, Medium, or Light Duty Truck Mechanic
- Forklift Technician
- Heavy Equipment Technician
- Agricultural Equipment Technician
- Parts Person or Service Writer
- Component Rebuilder
- Industrial and Marine Equipment Technician
- Truck/Auto Air Conditioning/Heating Technician

BENEFITS OF THIS CLASS:

- One or two year program
- 30 high school credits earned per year
- Equivalency credits in English, math, or science may be available
- Technical and employability skills applicable to this and other vocations such as automotive, electrical, and machining
- Application of academic education to real-life work experiences
- Benefits those going to college, especially in engineering and science
- Qualified students participate in dealer-level internships

IN THIS CLASS, STUDENTS:

- Choose either large, diesel or small truck, van, sport utility vehicles as their focus
- Work alone and in small groups
- Participate in leadership activities and organizations
- Work on real, up to date equipment including computer controlled engines and vehicles
- Learn about every vehicle system
- Use hand and power tools and test instruments
- Learn troubleshooting and problem solving skills
- May participate in internships at automotive dealerships



UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CLASS, STUDENTS RECEIVE:

- Certificate of Achievement recognized by industry
- Letter of Competency: valuable for you and to show employers what you learned and the degree of mastery you achieved.
- 6 college credits for the first year, and 3 credits for the second year at Evergreen Valley Community College with a grade of "B" or higher
- Job placement assistance

JOB MARKET INFORMATION:

There is a high demand for trained small/medium and heavy truck mechanics locally and throughout the nation. Starting salaries are typically \$12 to \$20 per hour. Salary will rise over time as skills grow. There are many advanced training programs available which give the mechanic additional skills and information about new techniques and products.

Truck mechanics work in a variety of types of businesses including specialized shops, dealerships, manufacturers, and rental companies or businesses with their own fleet of trucks.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR:

Michael Cortese earned his A.S. degree in Automotive Technology as well as an A.A. in General Studies while attending Evergreen Valley College.

Mr. Cortese worked at Swanson Ford for eleven years, starting as an Apprentice and participating in the Ford ASSET Program. He progressed to a Journeyman in 1996. By 1999, he had obtained Ford Master Technician certification, and ended his career there as a Ford Senior Master Automotive Technician in 2004. Over his last few years with Swanson, Mr. Cortese acted as a mentor, training incoming apprentices from the Ford ASSET Program. He received ASE certification as a Master Automotive Technician in 2000. In 2005 he received ASE certification as a Master Medium/Heavy Truck Technician. He has invested approximately 1500 hours in ASE and Ford factory training. For over ten years Mr. Cortese has also worked at maintaining and repairing heavy farm equipment.

School-to-Career Pathway

