

# ExxonMobil News

A publication for neighbors, employees and retirees in the Baton Rouge area

## INDUSTRY 101: STUDENTS, TEACHERS LEARN ABOUT CAREERS IN ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING



Education is the fundamental building block of individual opportunity and economic growth, and STEM skills, in particular, are critical. ExxonMobil is focused on inspiring and preparing our youth to pursue STEM careers through supporting students and empowering teacher success. Our support of education continued all summer long for both students and teachers through three programs: ExxonMobil’s High School Internship Program and Jumpstart Academy as well as an Educator Externship Program.

### High School Internship Program

This summer, 40 rising juniors and seniors from 23 local schools are getting a head start on their futures by participating in ExxonMobil’s eight-week High School Internship Program. Students are exploring careers as electricians, instrument technicians, machinists, pipefitters, welders, analyzer technicians, laboratory technicians, engineers and more – all while working 40-hour weeks and earning a competitive wage.

Each student has an ExxonMobil employee mentor and is receiving hands-on training in addition to working on an intensive technical project throughout the summer. Beyond career exploration, the program includes volunteering in the community, resume building, interview skills, presentation skills and contractor site visits. The High School Internship Program started in 2021 with six students and has grown each year.

### Jumpstart Academy

Rising freshmen and sophomores recently spent a week learning about industry through ExxonMobil’s Jumpstart Academy, which is now in its second year. Students from EBR schools and City of Baker schools actively participated in many hands-on activities, including learning about OSHA safety and skilled crafts like carpentry, electrical, welding, instrumentation, millwright and more. Students also had the opportunity to tour the local Coca-Cola Bottling operations plant.

### Educator Externship Program

Nine local teachers went “behind the fence” to learn about industry careers as part of the Greater Baton Rouge Industry Alliance’s Educator Externship Program, which aims to connect high school educators with exceptional career opportunities available to their students. Teachers toured our facilities and learned about career paths and the skills their students need to be successful in the energy and petrochemical industry.

## LIFTing up at STEM Fest



Students participating in our Leaders Inspiring the Faces of Tomorrow (LIFT) mentoring program recently attended STEM Fest, where they performed science lab experiments and built robots. Students also learned coding and watched a demonstration from the ExxonMobil drone team.

The ExxonMobil Foundation launched the LIFT program to facilitate career readiness and academic success by providing exposure to STEM careers in the energy industry, and Baton Rouge was one of two pilot sites for the program. As part of LIFT, local middle school students in sixth through eighth grades from Istrouma Middle Magnet School and Scotlandville Middle Pre-Engineering Magnet Academy were paired with mentors from 100 Black Men of Metro Baton Rouge for weekly sessions and various field trips over the school year. The Foundation for East Baton Rouge School System and YMCA of the Capital Area also collaborated with the LIFT program.

## Students transform bus stop into a work of art



Art enhances the local community – just ask two seniors from Southern University Laboratory School. ExxonMobil and The Walls Project recently challenged high school students to participate in a design competition to enhance a bus stop just outside the ExxonMobil Complex. Seniors Lola Saunders and Dashayla Snerling wrote compelling essays describing their artwork, and their winning designs were then painted onto the bus stop.



## STUDENTS LEARN THE ABCs OF CCS AT SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY



ExxonMobil Pipeline Company sponsored a week-long STEM camp at Southern University, where more than 100 sixth through ninth-grade students learned about carbon dioxide using a curriculum developed by Dr. Richard Tapia with Rice University. Each team explored carbon capture and storage using household items, even building a model underground saltwater reservoir to see how much carbon dioxide can be safely stored. Read the article in The Advocate [here](#).

## INDUSTRY-TRAINED STUDENTS GRADUATE, JOIN WORKFORCE



Nearly 70 students recently graduated from the North Baton Rouge Industrial Training Initiative (NBRITI) and have received certifications in electrical, millwright, pipefitting or welding.

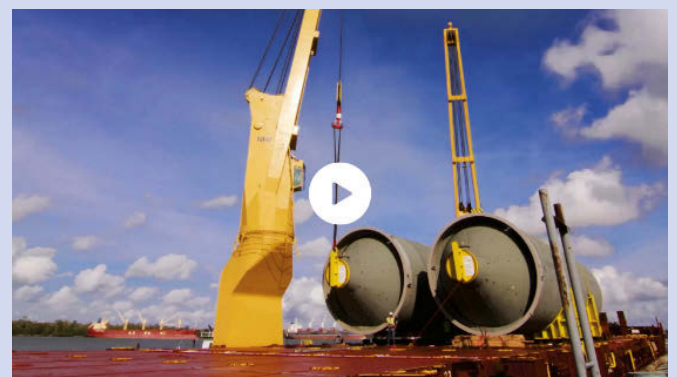
In collaboration with Baton Rouge Community College, NBRITI provides basic craft training at no cost to qualifying participants. Students receive fast-tracked classroom and hands-on training, which also includes life skills and workforce preparation. Since its inception in 2012, the NBRITI program has graduated more than 550 individuals, providing them with the skills and certifications necessary to thrive in various high-demand industries. Visit [mybrcc.edu/nbriti](http://mybrcc.edu/nbriti) for more information.

## BATON ROUGE REFINERY EARNS ENERGY STAR™ CERTIFICATION



Awarded to the top 25 percent of petroleum refineries nationwide, the ExxonMobil Baton Rouge Refinery has earned the 2023 ENERGY STAR™ designation, recognizing its energy efficiency and ability to meet strict energy efficiency performance levels set by the EPA. This is the fourth year the Refinery has earned the designation, reflecting a legacy of continued energy savings.

## REFINERY MODERNIZATION PROJECT NOW COMPLETE



Our Baton Rouge Refinery Integrated Competitiveness (BRRIC) suite of projects is now complete! Thanks to support from the Baton Rouge community, this three-year initiative has modernized our Refinery by improving processing capability, increasing flexibility for meeting energy market demand, advancing overall site competitiveness, and installing technology for a voluntary 10 percent reduction of volatile organic compound emissions.

In this [video](#), learn more about how ExxonMobil has met its community commitments, supported supplier diversity and added to Baton Rouge's bottom line.

## POLYOLEFINS PLANT WINS PRESTIGIOUS SAFETY AWARD



Our Polyolefins Plant recently received the "Elite Gold" safety award from the American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers association. The award recognizes facilities with safety performances in the top five percent nationally that have demonstrated superior and consistent safety performance, program innovation and leadership.



# SUPPORTING SUPPLIER DIVERSITY THROUGH REVERSE TRADE SHOW, MINORITY BUSINESS ACCELERATOR



ExxonMobil recently participated in the Louisiana Chemical Association's Reverse Trade Show, where potential new suppliers were able to meet our employees and get information on how to do business with ExxonMobil.

ExxonMobil also continues to support supplier diversity through Baton Rouge Area Chamber's DRIVE Minority Business Accelerator. This year-long program provides minority business owners with tools to advance business operations, including financial management, marketing and sales, human resources, business strategy development, access to capital, contract development and much more. Eleven minority-owned businesses comprised the second cohort, collectively representing approximately \$26.4 million in annual revenue and employing 155 full-time equivalent employees.

Graduates include Paola Alvarado, CORE Boiler & Mechanical Services; Ross Armstrong, 4th FLR Creative Agency; LaMiesa Bonton, Bonton Associates; Kellen Francis, CodeGig; Wendy Green Daniels, Beechwood Residential; Kodi Guillory, Sustainable Design Solutions; Sherilyn Hayward, Leroy's LipSmack'n Lemonade; Quinlan Motley, 1-800 Radiator & AC; Derrick Smith, Luxury Lawn & Landscape; Renita Thomas, In Loving Arms Pediatric Day HealthCare; and Achilles Williams, Caerus Advisors.

Applications for the next cohort will open in September. To learn more about the Drive Minority Business Accelerator powered by ExxonMobil, visit [brac.org/drive](http://brac.org/drive).

## Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day sparks STEM interest



Can a tower be built out of spaghetti? With a bit of guidance from ExxonMobil engineers, nearly 75 students did just that at the company's 20<sup>th</sup> annual Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day. Organized by members of ExxonMobil's Women's Interest Network (WIN), Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day builds interest, confidence and understanding of engineering among girls. Students learned basic engineering principles through interactive experiments, and how taking an interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) subjects now can lead to rewarding careers later in life.

## Community members learn about operations



Members of our Community Dialogue Group (CDG) had the opportunity to tour our Refinery, where they met with ExxonMobil employees like the Refinery Superintendent, who plays a vital role in the day-to-day operations within our facilities. The CDG is a group of community representatives who meet bi-monthly to learn more about our company, our community investments and topics of interest.

## ExxonMobil fundraises "fore" Capital Area United Way



ExxonMobil was proud to hold our inaugural Charity Golf Tournament, which raised more than \$170,000 to benefit the Capital Area United Way.



## ExxonMobil recognized for investing in K-12 education



The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) recently recognized ExxonMobil for investing in K-12 education, workforce development programs and community support.

## Councilwoman Coleman's Campers visit ExxonMobil



Students from Councilwoman Carolyn Coleman's summer camp visited our Wildlife Education Building to learn how to plant vibrant gardens, embark on nature-based scavenger hunts and participate in hands-on STEM activities.

## Employees recognized with Power of Women awards



Capital Area United Way honored two employees with Power of Women awards. Barbara Beckmann (pictured, left) received the Excellence in Social & Community Investment award in recognition of her immense dedication, groundbreaking achievements and significant impact on the community. Terri Newby-Mearidy (pictured, right) received the Woman of Inspiration award for her tireless service, unwavering commitment and advocacy for others to join the cause.

## Stephanie Cargile, Meg Mahoney assume new roles



Stephanie Cargile, former Baton Rouge Public and Government Affairs (P&GA) manager, has assumed a regional Government Affairs advisor role with the company. Meg Mahoney, a Louisiana native and leader in industry public affairs, has replaced Stephanie as Baton Rouge P&GA Manager.

# EMPLOYEES IN ACTION

## Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day



Employees participated in several volunteer activities for MLK Day, including yard work at the River Road African American Museum in Donaldsonville and painting and cleaning Eden Park.

## Black History Month



Southern University President-Chancellor Dr. Dennis Shields served as keynote speaker for our Black Employee Success Team's Black History Month finale event. Dr. Shields shared his journey from foster care in Iowa, the barriers he faced and the people who influenced him along his path.



## Earth Day and Love the Boot Week



Earth Day was extra meaningful this year! Our Wildlife Habitat Team recently transformed vacant land into thriving habitats and an outdoor classroom, and the Wildlife Habitat Council, a national conservation nonprofit, recently recognized our efforts by designating this area as a silver-level Certified Wildlife Habitat.

For Earth Day, employees sowed sunflower seeds and fertilized wildflower gardens near this area, which is known as the Wildlife Education Building (WEB). They also planted various citrus trees and berry bushes alongside the herb garden located on the nature walk.

As part of Love the Boot Week, employees built flower beds around the WEB facility. Teams also picked up trash along the Greenbelt, beautified existing gardens and built birdhouses.

## SheBuild with Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge



Who builds? She builds! Employees built flower boxes and home ramps for Rebuilding Together Baton Rouge's inaugural SheBuild event. The organization works to revitalize homes in the Baton Rouge area.

## Memorial Day



Our Veteran Advocacy and Support Team (VAST) spent Memorial Day weekend honoring the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

## SCIENCE CORNER

### WHAT IS THAT FLAME?



[Click here to watch our video on how flares work.](#)

A flame burning at the top of a pipe stack can look alarming. Although the sight of flares and the rumbling noise that sometimes accompanies flaring can cause concern, please remember that occasional flaring is a vital part of keeping our facilities running safely during unplanned operational interruptions or scheduled maintenance activities.

**How do flares work?** Flares are important safety devices used in refineries and petrochemical facilities. They safely burn excess hydrocarbon gases that cannot be recovered or recycled. Excess hydrocarbon gases are burnt in the flare systems in an environmentally-sound manner, as an alternative to releasing the vapor directly into the atmosphere. During flaring, excess gases are combined with steam and/or air, and burnt off in the flare system. The use of flares is minimized to the extent possible. However, flaring can occur during start-up and shut-down of any of our facilities for maintenance and also during unplanned operational interruptions such as power outages.

**What is that black smoke?** While we strive to achieve smokeless flaring, it may not always be possible during operational situations. On some occasions, there may be black smoke from the flare. The smoke, which is mainly made up of carbon particles, occurs when there is an insufficient amount of air to support a complete combustion. This may happen when there is a sudden release of excess gases to the system with a delay in response before sufficient steam can be supplied to the burning process. Steam is usually added to the gases to increase turbulence in the gas flow. This increases air intake that helps to achieve complete combustion and smokeless flaring.

**What is that rumbling noise?** Occasionally, during flare activity, a rumbling sound, much like far-off thunder, resonates from the system.

**Regulating emissions.** The Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality strictly regulates emissions from the stacks and limits the density and duration of allowable flaring. In recent years, ExxonMobil in Baton Rouge has taken a number of steps to recover and reprocess excess materials to lessen the flaring on a day-to-day basis. However, use of the flare system is still essential to the safe operation of our facilities.

For flaring updates, please follow our Facebook page at [facebook.com/exxonmobilbra](https://facebook.com/exxonmobilbra).

## IN THE NEWS

[Employee Jared Heller helps State Police perform CPR](#)

[Barbara Beckmann, longest-serving ExxonMobil employee in the world, commits \\$5 million gift to engineering school](#)

[Complex co-manager Regina Davis featured in 225 Magazine](#)

[Plastics Plant and Resins Finishing Plant manager Laura Eiklor named an "Emerging Leader"](#)

[Employee David Hou details why he chose Baton Rouge over a big city](#)