

## **National Apprenticeship Week promo (November 13-19)**

### **Operating Engineers Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee of Philadelphia, Eastern PA and DE**

Operating Engineers operate and maintain a variety of powered equipment. These range in complexity from air compressors, earth boring machines and bulldozers, to very large power shovels and cranes. Engineers operate this equipment to dig or excavate basements, trenches, post holes and tunnels; to raze obsolete or dilapidated structures; to move, hoist, load and transport sand and gravel; to provide compressed air or electric power for powered hand tools.

Operating Engineers lubricate, maintain and perform minor repairs and adjustments to the machinery. Engineers install clamshell, dragline buckets and other attachments required for certain jobs.

A qualified Operating Engineer is capable of operating and maintaining a wide variety of powered construction equipment. Some Operating Engineers choose a certain type of machine as their specialty and are known by that title instead of the general title of operating engineer. When preferred work is not available, however, engineers will operate different machines or instruct others in their use.

#### **- Working Conditions:**

Operating Engineers work outside in all types of weather. The work is strenuous and the operators are subject to jarring, jolting, and continuous noise. The potential danger for injury is constant and requires constant vigilance to avoid hazards such as powerlines, moving machinery, and unsafe soil conditions. These dangers are reduced by use of flagpersons, barricades, safety hats and equipment maintenance programs. When a dangerous situation rises, many times good judgement of an operator prevents an accident.

Due to the nature of the work, an Operating Engineer will be expected to travel and live away from home for a portion of time. General such jobs are within weekend commuting distance.

#### **- How to apply:**

Persons interested must apply in person at Local 542 J.A.T.C office. Applications are taken during the month of November, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. It would be best to call first to make sure we are taking applications in any given year. The application fee of \$10.00 by money order will be reimbursed after an applicant appears for testing. Bring your valid driver's license and \$10.00 money order to apply at 1375 Virginia Drive, Suite 206, Fort Washington, PA 19034.

#### **- Requirements necessary to enter the apprenticeship program include:**

Applicant must be at least 18 years of age.

Must have a valid current driver's license.

Must undergo drug testing when scheduled by the J.A.T.C.