



NATIONAL CENTER FOR
INTEGRATED SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY
Illinois State University

IST CD/Video Script

VIDEO/AUDIO/MUSIC	NARRATION
#1 (Upbeat music playing)	Integrated
#2 (Upbeat music playing)	Systems
#3 (Upbeat music playing)	Technology
#4	Integrated Systems Technology (IST) is the newest, high-demand career opportunity in America! Individuals with IST skills work with the complex integrated electrical, mechanical, and electronic systems found in today's industrial environments. These individuals operate, troubleshoot, and maintain the technologies and equipment that make American manufacturers the most productive in the world!
#5	The shortage of IST workers is at an all-time high, and growing! Although it's a well-known fact that the number of American manufacturing jobs has decreased over the last few years, the skills needed to get and keep a job in this sector have dramatically increased. Technological advancements in the workplace and the graying of the American workforce have created a talent war with manufacturers across our nation. The shortage of skilled workers has already begun to reach a crisis-level in the United States. Workers who are cross-trained and have IST skills are well-paid and in high demand!
#6	Advanced Manufacturing IST training programs are part of the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative. This Presidential Initiative targets worker training to prepare individuals to take advantage of new job opportunities in high growth, high demand sectors of the American economy.
#7	Partnerships are the foundation of this initiative. These partnerships include governors and other state-level personnel, economic development specialists, workforce development professionals, business and industry representatives, and educators, all working collaboratively to develop solutions to workforce challenges and labor shortages facing high growth industries like advanced manufacturing.
#8	The United States Department of Labor began this IST initiative with short-term dislocated worker training and employment programs in the Midwest states of Illinois and Ohio. Over the last few years, Midwestern community colleges have offered these programs and have provided individuals with the technical training needed to secure jobs in fast-paced, high-tech, high-demand IST occupations.

#9	Hundreds of manufacturers in these two states immediately recognized the value in this high-tech cross-training and hired program participants. And many of these manufacturers chose to hire 2 or more of these newly trained individuals.
#10	Because of the success of these programs, this initiative is being replicated, and expanded, in other states across our nation. Through this IST expansion, in addition to offering this nationally recognized training and employment program for dislocated workers, community colleges can also offer IST courses for incumbent workers, apprentices, and individuals pursuing an Associate Degree in the field of Advanced Manufacturing.
#11	Incumbent workers and individuals in apprenticeship programs participate in IST training to upgrade their skills, and to increase their capacity to retain their positions and advance in their careers.
#12	As more complex, high-tech equipment is utilized by manufacturers across our nation, individuals pursuing an Associate Degree in the field of Advanced Manufacturing recognize the necessity of the cross-training offered in IST courses. This cross-training provides the skills necessary for them to excel within their chosen manufacturing career.
#13	IST training programs are designed for individuals who want to improve their chances of getting or keeping a high-wage, high-demand job. Adults who enjoy problem-solving and learning from experienced technicians on industry-standard equipment will excel in these programs. Reading, math, and manual dexterity skills are necessary to be successful in both the IST program and in an IST position. The local One Stop Center or community college will work with individuals to assess their strengths and help determine if IST training is appropriate for them.
#14	Integrated Systems Technology offers some of the highest paying and most satisfying career opportunities today, as companies increase their use of newer and more complex high-tech equipment.
#15	To perform well in today's manufacturing environments, employees must have higher skill levels in a wider range of technologies than ever before.
#16	The skills learned in IST classes help individuals develop the depth and breadth of knowledge needed to enter into, and advance within, these exciting careers.
#17	Participants in IST programs experience hands-on learning, using industry-standard equipment that recreates the industrial environment in the classroom. IST instructors teach relevant skills that have been identified by today's employers as necessary for getting and keeping a job.
#18	Industry leaders such as Caterpillar, Ford, IBM, General Motors, Miller, Motorola, Honda, US Steel, Goodyear, Siemens and Alcoa Aluminum were instrumental in the development of the IST curriculum and training equipment.

#19	IST training programs utilize a series of integrated learning units, each covering a major industrial training area involving electrical, mechanical, and electronic systems. These units consist of Learning Activity Packets, or LAPs. These LAPs are task-based, where theory and hands-on activities are structured around industry-relevant skills, helping ensure that dislocated workers are ready to go directly to work when they complete the training program, or that currently employed workers upgrade their skills and retain their jobs or advance in their careers.
#20	IST classroom activities are designed to provide individuals with troubleshooting and problem-solving experiences that ensure that they can adapt to the changing high-tech environments and ever-present challenges in today's workplace.
#21	Specifically, computerized fault insertion, test instruments, and industrial applications are used to teach analysis and troubleshooting skills.
#22	Authentic assessment, where participants actually demonstrate the skills they have learned, plays a major role in IST training. Authentic assessment not only overcomes the limitations of traditional paper and pencil tests, it also gives participants a much better idea of how well they are learning the skills needed to get a high-tech manufacturing job.
#23	Along with authentic assessment, IST software enables program participants to electronically track the progress of their learning. This software provides immediate feedback about how well individuals are learning information and developing skills. And with this software, participants can be given reports that identify the specific skills they have learned. During a job interview, these reports can be shared with a potential employer to verify the skills the individual brings to the position.
#24	If you are interested in enrolling in an IST program or getting more information about IST careers, contact your local One Stop Center or community college. You can also check out the National Center for Integrated Systems Technology website at http://www.ncist.ilstu.edu for more information about IST and job opportunities in high-tech manufacturing.
#25	If you are an employer interested in upgrading the skills of your current workforce or hiring skilled individuals to fill vacancies of retiring workers, contact your local One Stop Center or community college, or review the resumes of recent IST program graduates on the National Center's website.
#26	(Show website address again.)
#27	Whether you are an individual who wants to upgrade your skills, or an employer who needs a trained workforce, don't let this opportunity pass you by! IST training programs provide the skills necessary to help keep America's manufacturers competitive!