



HanesBrands Pivots to Virtual Learning to Preserve Employee Continuing Education Program During COVID-19 Pandemic

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Thousands of employees working toward high school diplomas and enrolled in college, technical and vocational programs in Central America and Caribbean

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Sep. 17, 2020-- In addition to emergency production of face masks and re-opening manufacturing facilities in a safety-first manner in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, HanesBrands also has pivoted to remote learning to preserve its popular continuing education program for employees in Central America and the Caribbean.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20200917005891/en/>



The program, which has helped more than 2,700 employees earn high school diplomas and nearly 200 earn college degrees, has more than 700 employees in El Salvador, Honduras and the Dominican Republic studying virtually to complete high school degrees using the public education platforms in each country.

New courses are dedicated to coping with the COVID-19 environment, and new educational opportunities include an MBA program for manager-level employees.

"For more than a decade, we have successfully provided our employees one of the most sought-after resources – access to education," said Maria Elena Sikaffy, HanesBrands' vice president of human resources for supply chain operations in Central America and the Caribbean Basin where the company has more than 25,000 employees. "In spite of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, we continue to invest in our employees and support their desires to enhance their personal and professional development opportunities."

To enable remote learning, the company's organizational development team quickly established online support via chat, email and video calls to help employees complete assignments, clarify concepts and make progress toward their education goals despite the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis.

HanesBrands is preserving its employee continuing education program in Central America and the Caribbean during the COVID-19 pandemic by pivoting to remote learning. (Photo: Business Wire)

The company also added specific courses related to living and working during a pandemic. COVID-related courses include

"Mental Health and Emotional Crisis," "Creative Economy Management During Crisis," and "Coaching and Leadership During COVID-19 Times."

In addition to employees seeking high school graduation opportunities, the company-sponsored continuing education program has more than 1,000 employees taking virtual classes and certified training courses to improve their personal and professional skills.

Courses of study include an industrial engineering certificate that covers such topics as garment manufacturing, daily management, and human resources culture. Technical and vocational certifications also are offered in sewing, textile manufacturing and Lean Six Sigma. More than 4,000 employees have earned a certification diploma through technical training programs.

For manager-level employees, the company has introduced an international MBA program, which focuses on supply-chain management. It was launched in partnership with the prestigious Euncet Business School, a center for higher education associated with the Polytechnic University of Catalonia in Spain.

HanesBrands

HanesBrands (NYSE:HBI) is a socially responsible leading marketer of everyday basic innerwear and activewear apparel in the Americas, Europe, Australia and Asia-Pacific. The company markets T-shirts, bras, panties, shapewear, underwear, socks, hosiery, and activewear under some of the world's strongest apparel brands, including *Hanes*, *Champion*, *Bonds*, *Maidenform*, *DIM*, *Bali*, *Playtex*, *Bras N Things*, *Nur Die/Nur Der*, *Alternative*, *Leggs*, *JMS/Just My Size*, *Lovable*, *Wonderbra*, *Berlei*, and *Gear for Sports*. More information about the company and its award-winning corporate social responsibility initiatives may be found at www.Hanes.com/corporate. Visit our newsroom at <https://newsroom.hanesbrands.com/>. Connect with the company via social media: Twitter ([@hanesbrands](https://twitter.com/hanesbrands)), Facebook (www.facebook.com/hanesbrandsinc), Instagram ([@hanesbrands_careers](https://www.instagram.com/hanesbrands_careers)), and LinkedIn ([@Hanesbrandsinc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/hanesbrandsinc)).

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