## Quality Tile Trade Academy Changes Name to Reflect New Certified Training to Help Employers Find Workers in Growing Construction Sector





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Expanding certified training to meet the needs of the growing construction industry, Müller Academy announces a name change to Craft and Trade Academy. Known for two tile apprenticeships certified by the U.S. Department of Labor, the Academy will now also offer a pre-apprenticeship construction experience (PACE) program, and a Drywall, Paint and Paper program at their locations in Charlotte, N.C., and Greenville, S.C. This is done with a goal of meeting a direct industry need and programs which go beyond construction.

"This is a great career alternative with very competitive pay," said Frank Müller, President of Müller Corporation. "Our tile finisher and installer apprenticeships are based on the German model, recognized internationally for its high standards. The Academy is built on three pillars: Safety, Culture, and Artisanry, and the new programs will reflect that mission."



Revenue in the flooring Installers industry is forecast to increase 8.2% in 2021 because of low mortgage rates, according to industry research reports. Following that expected need, the Academy has grown in size and significance.

Students looking for an alternative to college are encouraged to seek a career in the flooring construction business. "Providing certified workers also helps employers recruit and retain employees," said Joshua Doty, Academy Director.

To achieve their certificate, which is officially recognized by the Department of Labor, apprentices must meet classroom expectations, complete specific numbers of hours in the field and pass several skills assessments, including a final assessment where they display all of their skills in a timed assessment. Prospective students can explore additional information as the Academy's website and Instagram transition to the new name and offerings

at: <a href="https://mullercorporation.com/academy/">https://mullercorporation.com/academy/</a> and <a href="https://www.instagram.com/muller.academy.usa/">https://www.instagram.com/muller.academy.usa/</a>



The Academy feels it is important to incorporate programs that were adapted to the crafts and the construction industry. That is why they have begun a series of workshops featuring various artisans and artists, such as the handling of mosaics for murals and decoration or stamping on mosaics and glass for decorative and artistic purposes.

Training of artisanal handicrafts will be expanded according to the needs of the construction market and the community.

The upcoming Craft in Trade series will focus on artistic skills in commercial work to promote awareness and appreciation for the presence of artistic skills in craft.

"Today more than ever, we believe the pathways to becoming a skilled trade and craft worker are narrowing and the development and support of these programs are necessary to preserve the talent that took a lifetime to develop," said María-José Mage, VP of Marketing Müller Corporation and avid promoter of the Crafts & Arts in Charlotte. The Academy of Crafts and Trade will use the talents of yesterday, combined with the technology of today, to forge a new generation of artisan and commercial workers.

The Craft & Trade Academy welcomes you to come and see their new facility as well as learn about their current and upcoming programs. The Academy's belief is that the pathways to becoming a skilled trade and craft worker are dwindling and the development and support of these programs are necessary to preserve the talent that took lifetimes to develop.

## **About Craft and Trade Academy**

Founded as Müller Academy in 2019, the training program and apprenticeships are based on the German model, recognized internationally for a high standard of quality. In order to develop apprentices into quality tile installers, the Academy runs a two-year program that consists of classroom and workshop training, as well as on-the-job training. The Craft and Trade Academy is a public 501(c)3 non-profit higher education institution committed to providing paths and expanding skills within the construction industry.