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**Peninsula Council for Workforce Development Awarded
\$5,000 Grant from Howmet Castings**

Hampton, VA (December 6, 2006) - The Peninsula Council for Workforce Development (PCFWD) has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from Howmet Castings in Hampton to support the Youth Career Café. Howmet Castings in Hampton, a subsidiary of Alcoa, was awarded a 2006 Community Leadership Award from the Alcoa Foundation. One of only three corporate-wide winners of this honor, the \$10,000 award allowed Howmet to provide grants to local groups who are making a significant difference in the community.

A project of the Peninsula Council for Workforce Development, the Youth Career Café is designed to prepare the Peninsula's youth for the workplace. The Café is a place where all youth ages 14 to 21 can increase their workforce readiness skills and learn to navigate the business world by expanding the connection between career and academic experiences. Opened at the Coliseum Mall in May 2006, the Café has served more than 1,180 students and 25 businesses. Mr. Matthew James, President and CEO of the Peninsula Council for Workforce Development, noted that, "Howmet's contribution to the Youth Career Café continues to demonstrate their commitment to the community. This award will allow us to be able to provide much needed services to the youth of the Peninsula".

Created to develop a regional "business-driven" workforce development system, the PCFWD's primary mission is to identify the employer workforce development needs of Peninsula-based employers. After determining their needs, it is the PCFWD's goal to implement regional solutions by establishing partnerships with related training and education providers that specifically address the particular needs. Howmet Products and Services is a world leader in the investment castings of superalloys, aluminum and titanium. Howmet and affiliates operate 27 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Canada, France, the United Kingdom and Japan. Howmet is a subsidiary of Alcoa, the world's leading producer and manager of primary aluminum, fabricated aluminum and alumina facilities. Alcoa has 129,000 employees in 42 countries.

More information on workforce development efforts on the Peninsula is available online at www.pcfwd.org or by contacting Matthew James, President and CEO of the Peninsula Council for Workforce Development, at (757) 826-3327 and email at mjames@pcfwd.org.

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