

**PARTNER PERSPECTIVE**

# People: Our Greatest Natural Resource



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Proponents of Canada's innovation economy talk a lot about the need for "highly qualified people." Who are these individuals, and why is this so important?

Landau Gage, a small, innovative Canadian company specializing in auto parts measurement tools, has a 93-per-cent answer.

That's how much inspection time it has saved an international manufacturer of transmission parts,

thanks to a non-contact measuring system developed by graduate students and their professor at University of Windsor.

Dr. Rashid Rashidzadeh, manager of the university's Research Centre for Integrated Microsystems, had done research in 3D integrated circuit testing and smart sensors, using expertise and solutions gained through work with CMC Microsystems. Using that knowledge, and in partnership with Landau Gage, the adjunct professor and his students designed and created a technology that uses lasers and algorithms to quickly scan and analyse the precision of transmission parts, where microscopic differences in dimensions can cause transmission failure.

When tested on a batch of parts on the factory floor, their system reduced the projected inspection time by 93 percent – from 34 hours to 90 minutes, or just under two minutes per part. The patented technology is now part of the company's product line, and is being used

by a global company with 20,000 employees.

Landau Gage was so pleased with the results that it hired one of the students, and created internships for two more.

That's just one example of highly qualified people. Over the past five years, at least 2,500 of these extraordinarily well trained individuals, using tools, prototyping services and expertise provided by CMC Microsystems, were hired by companies in Canada. They are the innovators of the future, helping to create the next wave of advanced technologies that are fundamental to Canada's scientific leadership, industrial know-how, and high-tech competitiveness.

These people are our greatest natural resource, and they are essential if Canada is to become even more competitive, wealthier, healthier, greener, and safer. Now more than ever, Canada's innovation economy needs the human capability enabled by CMC.