Northeast Wisconsin Technical College (NWTC) is addressing workforce shortages in the energy and utilities sector through the development of the This project is designed to expand training opportunities, create new programs, and develop curricula for high-demand energy-related roles across the nation by creating a platform for industry, higher education institutions, and other

Using the results from the employer survey, the team should also identify how to share this information with other colleges as well as engage employers in conversations to understand the implications of any curricular changes.

Once the UECN microsite is published and publicized, the project team should consider how they might leverage this platform to enrich the Network member experience and to attract new members. Some considerations should include profiles of existing members and their partnerships, highlights of the employer skills surveys, and opportunities to meet with the Network leadership and other members during upcoming conferences.

To build relationships and collaborations, the project team should identify opportunities to convene current and potential members both virtually and in person. The project team should consider working with selected members to offer an online "office hours" or workshop series on topics of interests, such as identifying partners, developing collaborations, and modifying curriculum. Hosting networking events at related conferences such as HI-TEC and the ATE PI Conference could help to raise awareness of the Network and its goals, as well as begin to develop and deepen connections among attendees.

Other technical skills in which employers reported interest included equipment operation (n=2) and polyethylene (PE) fusion (n=1). As one respondent stated, “We need mostly plastic gas technicians who can grasp the concepts of the installing mains and services. They need to be able to drive with commercial licenses and operate basic excavation equipment.” Equipment, safety, and health certifications are also included in the program curriculum, and employers reported that these credentials vary in importance for new hires (Figure 4). Commerical Driver’s License (CDL) certification is most important, with one respondent identifying “combination and air brake CDL” as another important credential. “Fire prevention” was noted by one employer as another certification that would be useful for new hires.

Word, Outlook, and Excel. Other professional skills that employers reported as important included reading comprehension (n=1), interpersonal skills (n=1), professional appearance (n=1) and interview skills (n=1), with one commenting on the importance of, “Knowing how to do behavioral interviews and answering in the STAR

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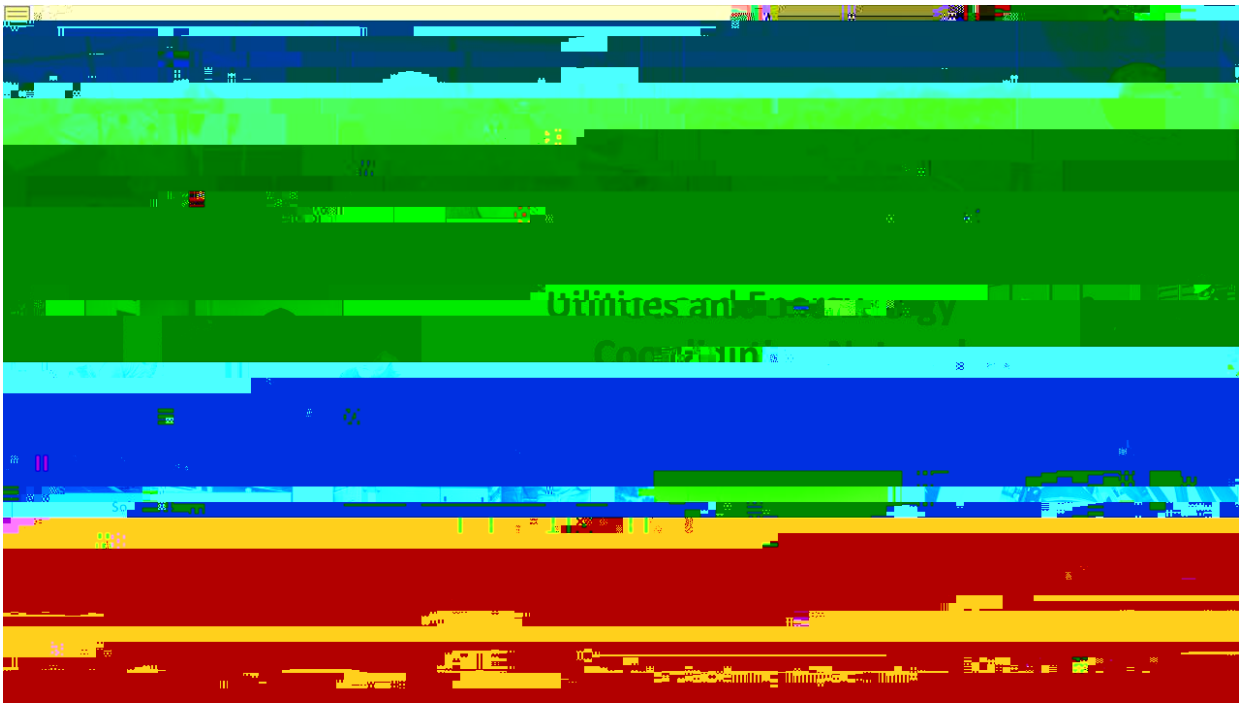
Conduct a SWOT Analysis	Completed SWOT analysis
Facilitate Network visioning session(s)	Network vision statement documented
Host strategic planning sessions	Three-year Strategic Plan
Develop an action plan	2023 Network Action Plan

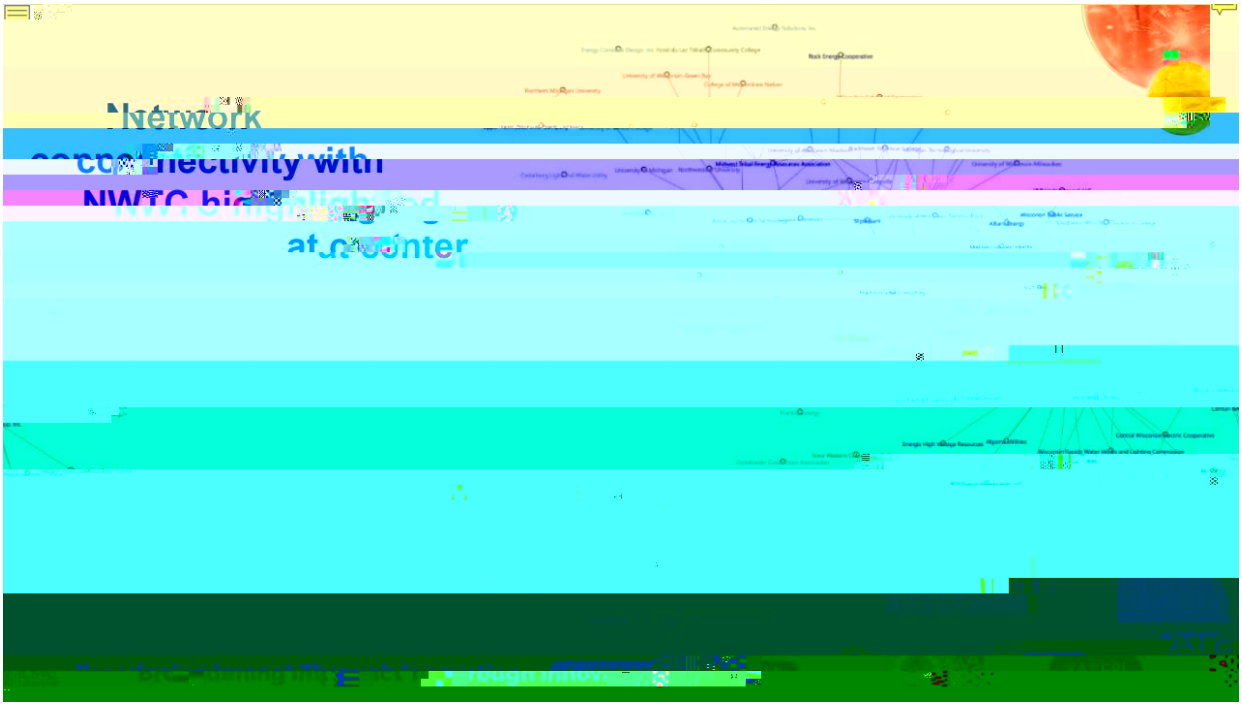
_____ Verbal and written communication skills

Q9 What, if any, other professional skills are important to your company when hiring? _____

October 2021 to July 2022

1. RENEW Energy Summit. January 27
2. Midwest Renewable Energy Fair, June 24-26
3. Booth at the BEST Center's Virtual Winter Institute, ended January 7
4. Presentation at WI Energy Consortium, October 2021
5. ATE Virtual Conference, October 2021
6. WI Energy Efficiency Expo, October 2021
7. Plastic Pipe Institution program at NWTC, October 2021
8. Speaker at Peshtigo Chamber of Commerce, fall 2021
9. School outreach, Fall 2021
10. Project team met with CREATE, November 2021
11. Speaker at Oconto High School, October 2021
12. ATE meeting about Necessary Skills Now Network
13. Presenter at C3 Conference, February 3-4, 2022
14. Presenter at HI-TEC Conference, July 25-28, 2022
15. Superintendent's conference, January 2022
16. Achieve the Dream Conference, February 2022
17. WI Technology Education Association, March 17-18, 2022
18. Midwest Renewable Energy Fair, June 24-26, 2022
19. WEWC Consortium Meeting, February 17, 2022



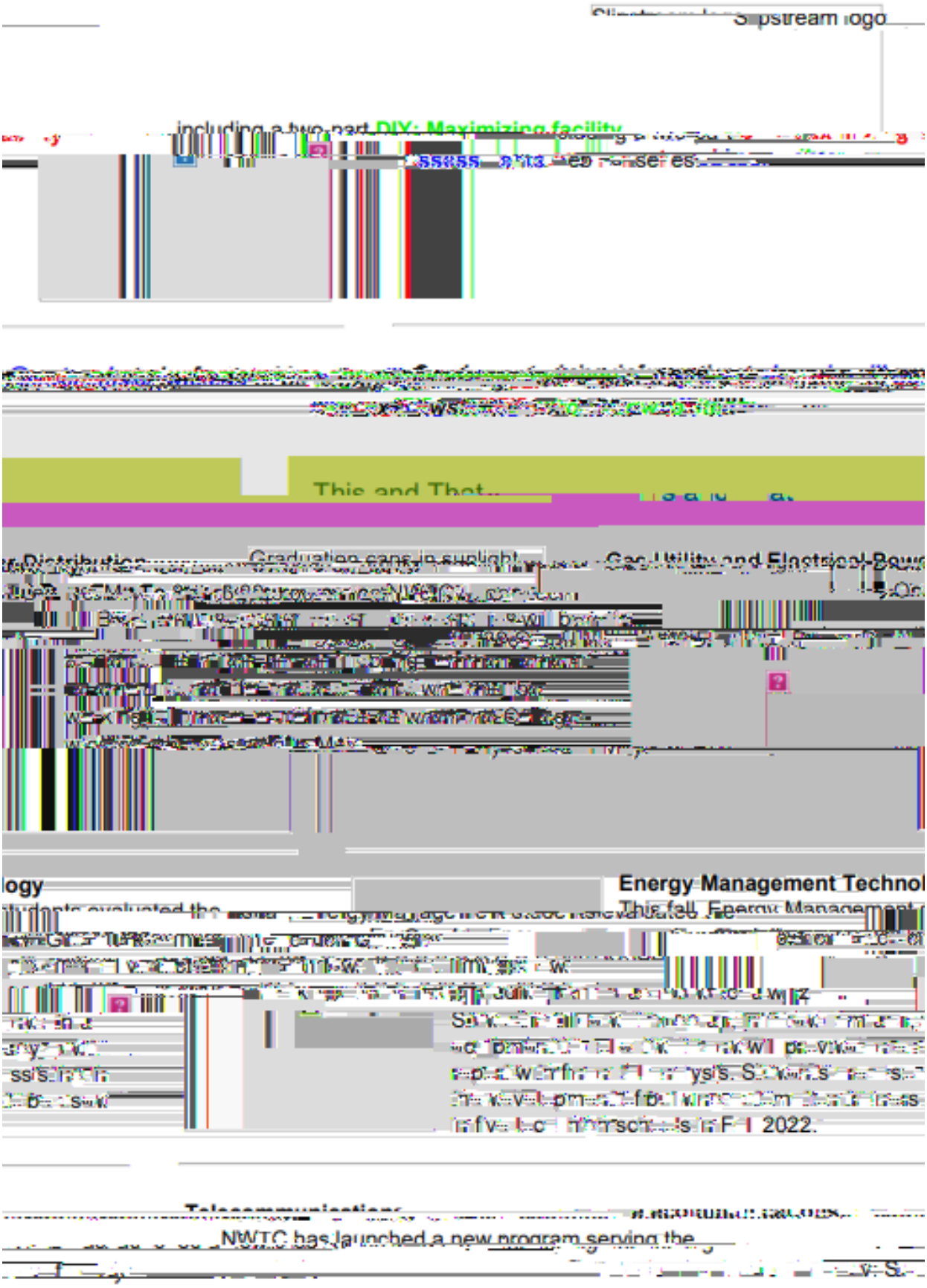

Network
connectivity with
at a center

Year 1 Accomplishments
here.

To continue moving forward, we need to know what you want and how best to communicate with each other.

Upcoming
Trainings
and Seminars
This and That
Grant Updates

Upcoming Trainings and Seminars
NWTC Corporate Training and Economic
Get training when and where you need it at a cost
Center for Renewable Energy Advanced
Technological Education (CREATE)



program will leave with certifications to safely build and maintain telecommunications towers and have the capability to design and engineer projects that contribute to the nation's infrastructure.