

WESTERN — TEXAS COLLEGE —

PETROLEUM TECHNOLOGY August 2014

The Petroleum Technology Program has added 20 freshmen for the fall semester including the program's first female student. Along with the newly arrived freshmen are 10 returning students.



(Above) Pipe threading tools used by the students.

Through a Texas workforce grant, Western Texas College was able to add Rigid™ pipe threading tools to the Petroleum and Process Technology programs. There are now four workstations where the students will work with a variety of tools to learn how to thread pipe.



(Above) Toby Lawrence of RIDGID™ demonstrates to sophomores how to use the RIDGID™ 300 power drive pipe threading tool.

There is a Rigid™ 300 power drive unit, a 700 drive power unit, a hand threading unit, a ratcheting threading unit, pipe stands, vices and various cutters and conditioning tools as well. We will now be able to thread and groove pipe up to 4" in diameter for a wide variety of program based projects.



(Above) The first female student in the Petroleum Technology program working with some pipe.

Working with these tools is not limited to being large and masculine, as women are also able to perform these tasks. The first project to be undertaken with threading pipe and assembled with fittings was to construct a protective pipe frame to cover one of the power outlets in our field operation site.



(Above) Freshman students working with Rigid pipe threading tools.