



RGIS Inventory called upon Michigan Works! to assist in hiring 25 employees.

RGIS Inventory Hires 25 Seasonal Employees

RGIS Inventory is a global leader in inventory and retail services. With nearly 50 years of experience and a track record of excellence, they deliver accurate and cost-efficient services and solutions to customers large and small.

With the busy inventory season drawing near for local businesses, RGIS Inventory called upon the Michigan Works! Service Centers in Marquette, Escanaba and Iron Mountain to assist in the hiring of 25 employees. They rely on the Michigan Talent Bank to provide a qualified applicant pool. Michigan Works! provided them the space to conduct a job fair. At this event, potential job candidates were able

to fill out applications, take a pre-employment test and practice using the inventory counting machines. Selected individuals were asked to come back a week later for paid training in the Michigan Works! Service Center.

Cary Eisinger, Training Manager for RGIS Inventory, was impressed with the amount of qualified applicants and the professionalism portrayed by the Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialists assisting in this year's hiring process. "We only have a handful of people apply each session, and this year was particularly good," commented Eisinger.

Local Businesses Honored for Hiring United States Veterans (Cont'd Page 1)



From left to right: Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialist Jackie Earle, DLEG Veteran Representative Dale Stephenson (U.S. Veteran), Marquette County Commissioner and Six County employment Alliance Board Member and Michigan Works! Job Force Board Member Paul Arsenault, Marquette General Hospital Administrator Al Hendra (U.S. Veteran), Michigan Works! Job Force Board Member Judy Watson-Olson.

Marquette General Hospital has been a strong supporter of hiring veterans. Al Hendra, Hospital Administrator, served in Vietnam, and was attached to the 199th Light Infantry Brigade as a Combat Medic. He says, "We believe in what our veterans are doing for us to preserve our freedom and democracy. It is to our advantage to return them to the workforce upon completion of their tour of duty." Within the past few years, over a dozen MGH employees have been called up to serve. Some more than once.

NewPage Corporation proudly employs 267 veterans out of 1146 current employees. Providing employment opportunities to the men and women that have served our country is a priority for HR Managers, Dan Diers and Mary Hurley. "We've found that mill trainee candidates with military backgrounds typically offer a wealth of experience and skills and are prepared to meet the needs of manufacturing," says Diers.

United States veterans represent twelve percent of the **Sara Lee Bakery Group** workforce. "Sara Lee is committed to hiring United States veterans and al-

lows veterans the first opportunity to apply for positions as they become available at the bakery. We are proud of our employees who are U.S. veterans, and are thankful for their service to our country," comments Elizabeth Healy - Human Resources Manager.



From left to right: (front) Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialist Jo Ann Alexander, NewPage Vice President and Mill Manager Mark Lukacs, NewPage Human Resource Manager Dan Diers, (back) Delta County Commissioner and Six County Employment Alliance Board Member Les Ruohomaki (U.S. Veteran), Michigan Works! Job Force Board President Will Carne (U.S. Veteran), DLEG Veteran Representative Paul Bertagnoli (U.S. Veteran).



From left to right: County Commissioner and Six County Employment Alliance Board Member and Michigan Works! Job Force Board Member Paul Arsenault, Sara Lee Maintenance Mechanic Doug Potila (U.S. Veteran), Sara Lee Sanitation Manager Ron Morgan (U.S. Veteran), Michigan Works! Job Force Board Member Judy Watson-Olson, DLEG Veteran Representative Dale Stephenson (U.S. Veteran), Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialist Carrie Zeleznik (U.S. Veteran)

Hiring our nation's veterans is a priority for these and many other businesses in the Central Upper Peninsula. If you would like more information on the national "Hire Vets First" campaign or how to locate veterans for your workforce, contact your local Michigan Works! Service Center at 1-800-285-WORKS! (9675) today.

Thanks go out to all United States veterans who have served and continue to serve our country.



COMMUNITY EVENTS

January 9 . 2007
Business Showcase Country Kitchen
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

January 15 . 2007
Economic Club of Marquette—Presentation
Speaker: Ralph Bedogne, EMP
Location: Ramada Inn, Marquette
Time: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
For More Information Call the Economic Club at 906.228.6000

January 17 . 2007
Business Showcase Marquette Orthopedic & Sports Therapy /Advantage Sports Training
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

January 31 . 2007
Business Showcase MGHS & Community Foundation
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

February 12 . 2007
Business Showcase Bell Financial/Congress Pizza
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

February 21 . 2007
Business after Hours Michigan Works!
Location: UpFront & Co.
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

February 28 . 2007
Business After Hours Delta County Builders Exchange
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

Upper Peninsula Man Finds Much More Than a Job!

John did not understand, nor did he accept his learning disability prior to working with Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS). MRS helped John understand his disability, assessed his strengths and guided him into a career that best fit his

interests and abilities.

MRS provided John with training, education, interview skills, resume development, accommodations for his disability, disability awareness and support, guidance, counseling and a vocational assessment.

With the help of MRS and through his dedication to succeed, John secured employment in his field of choice, teaching. He is now a role model in his community. He shares his personal experience with youth to encourage and empower them to

follow their dreams.

John is grateful for the services provide him through the Michigan Rehabilitation Services Department and stated, "MRS helped me believe that I was okay."

Michigan Rehabilitation Services Receives Public Service Award

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS), a bureau in the state Department of Labor & Economic Growth, has been selected by the National Rehabilitation Association (NRA) to receive its 2006 Public Service Award.

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm said, "This award shows that Michigan is a leader in making sure we lift up all citizens and put them on the path to being self-sufficient and contributors to the economy."

MRS, which assists Michigan residents with disabilities into jobs, was nominated by the Michigan Rehabilitation Council (MRC), with supporting letters from numerous organizations that advocate for people with disabilities.

"The various letters of support provided clear and obviously convincing evidence of how MRS has been successful in a variety of venues within the field of rehabilitation," said Marlene Malloy, MRC executive director. "Most importantly, the MRC recognizes MRS's focus on championing the impact of its services as a mechanism that enhances the quality of lives for the Michigan citizens it serves."

NRA presents its annual Public Service Award to organi-

zations or individuals that have demonstrated leadership in improving rehabilitation services at the federal, state, or local levels, particularly those which have exercised creative and effective political leadership over a period of years on behalf of rehabilitation programs and individuals with disabilities.

"We are so pleased that Michigan Rehabilitation Services is being recognized for the outstanding agency that it is," said DLEG Director Robert W. Swanson. "Each individual with a disability who is assisted into employment represents a success story."

MRS operates 36 offices throughout the state, staffed by master-degree-level rehabilitation counselors who work one-on-one with Michiganians with disabilities to assist them into employment. Services include vocational counseling, aptitude assessments, job training, accommodations, prostheses and other medical services, and job-seeking skills training.

Last year, MRS assisted 7,545 individuals with disabilities into jobs, with an average starting wage of \$11.14. The number of people MRS has assisted into gainful employment has increased every year for the last five years.

CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS

of improving the economy and quality of life in the central Upper Peninsula by bringing employers and job seekers together!

Upper Peninsula Business Works because...

MICHIGAN WORKS!TM

Visit our user-friendly Michigan Works! Service Centers in Escanaba, Iron Mountain, Manistique, Marquette, Menominee and Munising.

Join us for these upcoming Business After Hours Celebrations!

February 21, 5:00-7:00 PM
UPFront & Co., Marquette

March 20, 5:00-6:30 PM CT
Best Western, Menominee

May 15, 5:00-7:00 PM
TBA, Munising

June 14, 5:00-7:00 PM CT
Pine Mountain, Iron Mountain

September 26, 5:30-7:30 PM
Log Cabin Grille & Bistro, Escanaba

October 10, 5:00-7:00 PM
TBA, Manistique

We hope to see you there!

www.jobforce.org
(800) 285-WORKS

"My business works because Michigan Works!"
Services Offered for employers

- Profiling jobs to determine necessary skills and abilities
- Writing job descriptions and advertisements
- Posting job openings on the Talent Bank and campus websites
- Screening resumes and applicants
- Providing interview rooms and meeting facilities
- Training employees
- Helping with Human Resource administration issues
- Planning for business retention and expansion
- Offering Business Building Sessions on key issues

"I work because Michigan Works!"
Services Offered for job seekers

- Linking job seekers with local and regional
- Employment opportunities and job search web sites
- Testing ability and knowledge
- Offering employment and career skills workshops
- Helping with education financial aid forms
- Providing a resource library of links, videos and software for job seekers
- Offering Internet access, word processing equipment, phone and fax services
- Supplying information on employment policies and legal issues

MICHIGAN WORKS!TM **business is UP**

The Job Force Board

and the Six County Employment Alliance
Serving Alger, Delta, Dickinson, Marquette, Menominee and Schoolcraft Counties.

Equal Opportunity Employer Michigan Relay Center (1-800-649-3777) Auxiliary Aids & Services Available to Individuals with Disabilities.



Michigan Economic Development Corporation
President and CEO, James C. Epolito.

MEDC Helps Michigan Manufacturers Compete *Tool and Die Recovery Zone Program Proving to be Effective Resource*

Michigan Economic Development Corporation President and CEO James C. Epolito today announced the results of a survey that shows the state's tax-free Tool and Die Recovery Zone program to be helping Michigan tool and die companies increase business, create new jobs and compete in the global marketplace.

Tool and Die Recovery Zones are designed to retain existing jobs and strengthen tool and die business operations in the state. To qualify for Recovery Zone designation, a business must enter into a qualified collaborative agreement with other tool and die shops. The first Recovery Zone designations to coalitions comprising a total

of 33 companies went into effect on January 1, 2005.

To gauge the program's effectiveness and the benefits of the collaborative agreement, the MEDC surveyed the companies after one year to track their progress. Of the 33 companies surveyed, 20 reported an increase in hiring for a total of 123 new jobs, 24 reported investments totaling \$6.6 million in new equipment and 30 reported an overall increase in new business.

"In its short existence, the Tool and Die Recovery Zone program has proven to be an effective resource for Michigan tool and die companies," Epolito said. "If 33 businesses were able to produce these

kinds of results, imagine what 131 businesses will be able to accomplish over the next few years in new jobs and new investment here."

To date, the MEDC has designated 17 Tool and Die Recovery Zones benefiting 131 companies.

The Tool and Die Recovery Zone program is administered by the MEDC which is a partnership between the state and local communities. It promotes smart economic growth by developing strategies and providing services to create and retain good jobs and a high quality of life. For more information about the MEDC, please visit the Web site at www.michigan.org.

Marquette General Hospital— Top 100 Cardiovascular Hospitals



The annual Solucient award for cardiovascular services objectively measures performance on key criteria at the nation's top performing acute-care hospitals. This is the first time Marquette General Hospital has been recognized as a 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospital. MGH has previously been named among the 100 Top Hospitals-Stroke and 100 Top Hospitals-Orthopedics.

Hospitals qualifying for 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospital status must achieve high scores

in eight equally-weighted performance criteria. These criteria reflect clinical processes and outcomes, volume, efficiency and cost for four critical cardiovascular treatment areas: acute myocardial infarction (heart attack), congestive heart failure, coronary artery bypass graft (heart bypass surgery), and percutaneous coronary intervention (PTCA or angioplasty).

Marquette General CEO Bill Nemacheck said, "For our patients across the Upper Penin-

sula, this 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals designation by Solucient confirms that the cardiac care received at MGH is second to none. Cardiac care that's on par with the best in

the nation is available right here in the U.P. at Marquette General. It's a credit to the cardiologists, cardiovascular surgeons, the Marquette General Heart Institute staff, and all of the supporting specialists and hospital employees."

Cardiologist Bill Jean, MD, said, "This award is based on our performance in 2004 and 2005, and it's a credit to all of the Marquette General Heart Institute team members from the Emergency Department, to the Oper-

ating Rooms, to ICU, the Cardiac Units, Cardiac Rehab, ancillary services and the physicians involved with those teams."

Since 1978, when heart surgery was first performed at Marquette General, more than 13,000 percutaneous coronary interventions (angioplasties) and approximately 8,500 heart surgeries have been performed at Marquette General. In addition, more than 30,000 diagnostic catheterizations have been performed.

More information on the 100 Top Cardiovascular Hospitals designation is available at www.100tophospitals.com. For information about the Marquette General Heart Institute, go to <http://www.mgh.org/heart/heart.html>.



Do your employees have the computer skills they need?



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What is ICDL?

- International Computer Driving License (ICDL) was created to help individuals become more competent with computer use, increasing their productivity at work, school and home.
- ICDL is a fully integrated solution that successfully encourages candidates through a development path that produces skilled job candidates. The ICDL program consists of diagnostic tests to determine the candidate's knowledge, e-learning options, and tests and certification for those who pass.



Benefits of ICDL?

- Reduces the time needed for training by 35-40%
- ICDL Certified employees give them a new confidence in using a computer as a tool when entering an existing or new work environment
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- Statistics show that ICDL certified candidates are more productive, less apt to rely on costly support services and ready to address the business of the enterprise
- Over 140 hours per year/per employee are lost in solving an employee's basic computer questions
- An ICDL Certified candidate will save an employer those lost hours because they will already be skilled and knowledgeable

Contact your local Michigan Works! to learn more!

alger

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