

Jim Doyle
Governor

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Department of Workforce Development

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Governor Doyle Announces Workers Dislocated from WeldSource Alliance in Oshkosh to Receive Assistance

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle announced today the availability of additional reemployment services for all workers of WeldSource Alliance, Inc. in Oshkosh who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after August 31, 2006. The workers produce various welded products, principally mufflers for lawn mower engines.

“This additional federal funding will help these workers upgrade their skills and help prepare them for the highly-skilled jobs of the future,” Governor Doyle said. “I am pleased we are able to offer additional assistance to these workers to help them get back into the workforce, so they can support themselves and their families and enjoy all that life has to offer in Wisconsin.”

The services, administered by the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD), are available through local Job Centers and funded through the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program. They include retraining and reemployment services tailored to meet the needs of individual workers. Major activities and services for which these workers may qualify for are:

- **Training** for employment in another job or career
- **Income Support**, known as trade readjustment allowances (TRA)
- **Job Search Allowance** to cover expenses incurred in seeking employment outside normal commuting areas
- **Relocation Allowances** for approved relocations expenses to relocate to a new area of employment.

“This federal funding will help us serve workers in the area, as we reconnect unemployed workers to employment as quickly as possible,” said DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman.

In certifying these workers for TAA services, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) found that employment and sales of mufflers produced at the Oshkosh plant declined this year, while WeldSource Alliance’s primary customer increased its imports of mufflers.

Individuals interested in receiving reemployment assistance should contact a local Job Center or visit <http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dws/programs/dislocated/default.htm>. The nearest Job Center location can be found by calling (888) 258-9966 toll free.