

Jim Doyle
Governor

Roberta Gassman
Secretary



State of Wisconsin

Department of Workforce Development

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

201 East Washington Avenue

P.O. Box 7946

Madison, WI 53707-7946

Telephone: (608) 266-3131

Fax: (608) 266-1784

<http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/>

e-mail: dwdsec@dwd.state.wi.us

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CONTACT: Howard Cosgrove, Communications Specialist, 608-266-6753

Secretary Gassman Introduces Green Bay Employers to Wisconsin's New Online Employment Site

State Labor Secretary demonstrates search function for employers

GREEN BAY – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today gave representatives of three major Green Bay area employers a demonstration of the state's new employment website, JobCenterOfWisconsin.com, a free interactive site with new employee search features.

Meeting with representatives from the Oneida Nation, Schneider National and Georgia Pacific at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Secretary Gassman highlighted the new features of JobCenterOfWisconsin.com that allows employers to search for job seekers by matching key words or skills.

The employers included:

- Larry Harkness, Human Resources Manager, Georgia Pacific
- Mike Ruminski, Director, Driver Recruiting, Schneider National
- Barb Kolitsch, Human Resource Area Manager; The Oneida Nation
- Vicrietta Hensley, Tanya Danforth & Adam Ness, Compensation Specialists, The Oneida Nation

"Employers can use this new website to post job openings or to search for job seekers anywhere in the state who match their needs," Secretary Gassman said. "The site is free, user friendly and accessible at all hours of the day."

JobCenterOfWisconsin.com was developed as part of Governor Doyle's Grow Wisconsin plan. The Wisconsin-based employment site links Wisconsin employers with anyone looking for a job. Employers can post jobs or search for candidates from any computer with Internet service.

Job seekers can explore job opportunities from their home computers or at Job Centers, libraries or any other place with public Internet access. "This site was designed for everyone, whether they are looking for their first job or are experienced workers looking for a better job," Secretary Gassman said.

JobCenterofWisconsin.com replaces the state's JobNet system, which was created in 1993 and has become out-dated. In 2007 DWD and Governor Doyle's Council on Workforce Investment initiated a pilot site operated by the Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board and its partners. DWD further improved the site's function and design with the assistance of job seeker and employer feedback sessions.

Among the most significant improvements:

- An easy, fill-in-the-blank feature helps job seekers create professional-looking resumes that can be saved, emailed or printed;
- Users may keep resumes confidential or make them available for search by employers;
- Employers can search for skilled employees through key search terms;
- Job seekers can find a list of job fairs and other employment and training events in their area;
- A toll-free help number connects callers with trained staff who can provide assistance and information about employment and training; and

A second round of upgrades will be added in December, including workshop sign-ups; wage, job trend and career information; and simplified methods for employers to save job postings. Users will also be able to view short demonstration videos that describe various careers.

The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development is charged with strengthening Wisconsin's workforce. DWD provides training and employment assistance to job seekers; enforces worker's rights; administers the state's unemployment insurance, apprenticeship, and worker's compensation programs; and works with employers to find appropriate job candidates.

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Photo URL Link: http://dwd.wisconsin.gov/dwd/newsreleases/2008/jcw_homepage.jpg

Caption:

JobCenterOfWisconsin.com, the Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development's new Internet employment site, is colorful, easy to navigate and user-friendly with improved capabilities for both employers and job seekers.

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