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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

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Governor Doyle Announces Additional Assistance for Dislocated Workers at Kerry Group, Inc, Germantown

Additional services available to on-site workers from Adecco, QPS and Magic Clean

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle announced today the availability of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) services for 84 dislocated workers from Kerry Group, Inc., in Germantown, as well as on-site workers from Adecco, QPS and Magic Clean.

“I am pleased to announce this additional federal assistance to help these workers improve their skills, and prepare for new jobs,” Governor Doyle said. “With this additional assistance we will be able to help these workers reenter the workforce, so they can support themselves and their families and enjoy all that life in Wisconsin has to offer.”

The U.S. Department of Labor approved TAA certification for the workers. The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) will administer the federally funded services, which are available through local Job Centers. 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 seeking employment outside normal commuting areas,
- **Relocation Allowances** for approved relocation expenses in moving to a new area of employment.

“These are services that we and our local partners can provide affected workers to help connect them with employers in search of workers with the right skills,” DWD Secretary Roberta Gassman said.

The U.S. Department of Labor determined that employment, sales and production declined at Kerry Group, Inc., due to increases of imports of articles like or directly competitive with those produced by the company, which makes the workers eligible to apply for assistance.

All workers separated from employment on or after July 9, 2007, through December 3, 2010, are eligible to apply for services. Affected workers will be notified of their eligibility by DWD.

Affected workers are also eligible to apply for Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA), which is available to workers aged 50 or older who possess skills that are not easily transferable. Qualifying workers who obtain new employment within 26 weeks of separation can receive a wage subsidy to help bridge the salary gap between their old and new employment. The program was designed to provide assistance to workers for whom the retraining offered under the regular TAA program may not be appropriate.

Individuals interested in receiving reemployment assistance should contact a local Job Center or visit <http://www.wisconsinjobcenter.org/directory/> to find a Job Center nearby. The nearest Job Center location also can be found by calling (888) 258-9966 toll free.