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## **Governor Walker Proclaims Manufacturing Awareness Week to Highlight Critical Role of Manufacturing in Wisconsin's Economy**

*Milwaukee Manufacturing Career Expo on May 10 will cap recognition of manufacturing sector*

MADISON – Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson announced that Governor Scott Walker has proclaimed the week of May 6 – 12 as “Manufacturing Awareness Week” to honor the contributions of Wisconsin’s many manufacturers in providing family-supporting jobs to nearly 450,000 Wisconsin citizens.

“Manufacturing has been and will continue to be an important part of Wisconsin’s economy,” said Governor Walker. “Last year I signed into law a manufacturing tax credit that will help create family-supporting jobs and continue to make Wisconsin more attractive to job creators long into the future.”

The Manufacturing Awareness Week coincides with the Milwaukee Manufacturing Career Expo, hosted by DWD on May 10 at the Exposition Center at State Fair Park. More than 60 employers with over 850 documented job openings have committed to participate in the Career Expo. Additionally, 700 job seekers have met with area Job Center staff to ensure they have created an account on [www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com](http://www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com), completed a resume and participated in a Career Expo Readiness Review Session. This first-of-its-kind event is a unique opportunity for job seekers and job creators to interact, to complete applications for work, and to interview for employment at the Career Expo. More information about the Career Expo can be found at [www.WisconsinCareerExpo.com](http://www.WisconsinCareerExpo.com).

“Governor Walker’s focus on manufacturing has meant thousands of Wisconsin workers are being hired in family-supporting jobs around Wisconsin,” added Secretary Newson. “Milwaukee’s history as the ‘machine shop of the world’ is a boon to manufacturers seeking a quality, well-trained workforce to fill their labor needs and support employment for Wisconsin residents.”

In addition to the Milwaukee Manufacturing Career Expo, the Wisconsin Manufacturing Extension Partnership will be hosting the annual Manufacturing Matters conference at the Frontier Airlines Center in Milwaukee on May 9. Secretary Reggie Newson will take part in a panel with WMC Foundation President Jim Morgan and WTCS President Dan Clancy on how Wisconsin can meet the skills needs of Wisconsin’s manufacturers. DWD staff will also participate in a “listening post” intended to provide conference attendees an opportunity to interact with state agency staff and get answers to questions about programs and services.

Additional information about the Manufacturing Matters event, including how to register, can be found at <http://www.manufacturingmatters.org/>.

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