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Governor Doyle Announces Workers Dislocated From Rib Lake Company to Receive Assistance

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle announced today the availability of additional reemployment services for all workers of Non-Metallic Components, Inc. of Rib Lake who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after July 18, 2006 due to increased imports. The workers produce custom injection molded plastic parts.

“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.

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.

In certifying these workers for TAA services, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) found that increased imports of articles like or directly competitive with those produced at Non-Metallic Components contributed to the decline in sales, production, and employment.

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.