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DWD launches JobCenterOfWisconsin.com

New, Free Internet Site Connects Employers and Job Seekers

JANESVILLE – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today launched a new Internet site to meet Wisconsin's 21st Century employment needs and provided a hands-on demonstration of the free, user-friendly site that will better connect employers and job seekers.

“The new Job Center of Wisconsin is for everyone, whether you have years of job experience or are just starting out, whether you have an advanced degree or are just graduating from high school,” Secretary Gassman said. “Our goal is to help all workers find the best available job and to help employers easily locate the employees they need to grow their businesses.”

JobCenterOfWisconsin.com is a Wisconsin-based employment site, linking employers with anyone looking for a job. The Internet-based site is free to both employers and job seekers and is available 24-hours a day. Job seekers can explore job opportunities from their home computers or at Job Centers, libraries or any other places with public Internet access.

“With a majority of our skilled workforce expected to retire in the next 10 years, it is important that we connect the 700,000 workers who are unemployed or underemployed in Wisconsin with the training and technology they need to be able to fill the jobs of our Wisconsin employers,” said Secretary Gassman. “This site makes it easy and convenient.”

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
- The site has a user-friendly design with simple navigation.

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.

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.

Wisconsin.gov

Secretary Gassman made the announcement at the United Auto Workers Local 95 headquarters in Janesville.

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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