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Governor Doyle Announces Additional Assistance for Dislocated Workers at Miller O'Connell Printing and E. R. Wagner Engineering

Additional services available to workers affected by foreign trade

MADISON – Governor Jim Doyle announced today the availability of Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) services for 29 dislocated workers at Miller O'Connell Printing, Waukesha; and 39 workers at E.R. Wagner Manufacturing Company, Milwaukee.

"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."

Workers at The Lang Company, Miller O'Connell Printing, are eligible for assistance because the company shifted production of wall calendars, Christmas cards, mugs and stationery to China. All Miller O'Connell workers totally or partially separated from the company from Nov. 19, 2007, through Dec. 11, 2010, including on-site leased workers employed by Manpower, Inc., Waukesha, are eligible to apply for trade adjustment assistance.

The 39 workers at E.R. Wagner Manufacturing, Engineered Hinges and Stampings Business Unit and Tubular Products Division, are eligible for assistance because at least 20 percent of the company's production or sales of component parts for rear axles, steering linkage assemblies and metal automotive seat frames, is supplied to manufacturers whose workers were certified eligible to apply for trade adjustment assistance. All workers totally or partially separated from employment on or after Nov. 24, 2007, through Dec. 16, 2010, are eligible to apply for trade adjustment assistance.

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.

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.