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## **Secretary Newson: Governor Walker's Job-Growth Strategies Working**

### ***Cites series of announcements of business expansions creating jobs across Wisconsin***

EAU CLAIRE – During a keynote address to workforce partners today, Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Reggie Newson said Governor Walker's strategies to improve Wisconsin's business climate and help create private sector jobs are working.

"Recently we have seen employers from Racine to Wausau announce they are expanding operations and adding jobs, and taken together, it shows Governor Walker's strategies are working," Secretary Newson said. "When he took office in January, Governor Walker declared Wisconsin open for business, and we're seeing results with new private sector jobs in communities around the state."

In remarks at the annual meeting of the West Central Wisconsin Workforce Development Board, Secretary Newson noted his appearance in Wausau earlier in the week on Governor Walker's behalf. He joined West Business Services executives, as they announced 100 new jobs. Earlier, Collaborative Consulting announced plans for a new lab creating 200 jobs in the community.

Secretary Newson said employers in communities such as Eagle River, Green Bay, Manitowoc, Minong and Schofield also are adding jobs. He said he expects more job growth as Governor Walker's business-friendly strategies continue and the economy further improves, particularly in the manufacturing sector which has been leading the recovery.

"Wisconsin exports are 13.5 percent ahead of levels a year ago," Secretary Newson said. "Withholding and sales tax revenues are up, and that tells us more wages are being paid and more goods are being purchased."

Secretary Newson said employers continue to post job openings on [www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com](http://www.JobCenterofWisconsin.com) well ahead of listings last year. He noted improvements to the free, online site that will provide jobseekers more employment opportunities and strategies for success. Announced this week, the enhancements include using web technology to gather and list openings from other sites, as well as the addition of Twitter and Facebook to provide jobseekers tips from experts.

Secretary Newson also outlined DWD's new strategic plan to advance Wisconsin's economy by empowering individuals and to make Wisconsin the workforce of choice. The West Central WDB and other regional partners have crucial roles to play, he said.

"With the help of strong partners like the West Central Board, we will succeed in achieving the goals of our strategic plan," Secretary Newson said. "Our goals are to connect jobseekers to jobs; support the development of a highly skilled labor force; achieve Unemployment Insurance solvency and increase program integrity; and deliver DWD services more efficiently and support increased transparency and accountability."