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Job Training Incentive Program Helps Seven Companies Hire and Train 191 New Employees

SANTA FE - The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) board approved \$1,198,930 in funds during its December meeting to help create 191 new jobs in New Mexico with an average wage of nearly \$16.51 an hour.

“The number of requests this month for JTIP funds demonstrates that New Mexico companies are ramping up production and services and looking to expand their workforce,” said Economic Development Secretary Jon Barela. “This is welcomed economic news and we are pleased to help these companies facilitate job creation.”

This month’s JTIP recipients are:

Tempur-Pedic – Bernalillo County, NM – The leading global manufacturer, marketer and distributor of premium mattresses and pillows, Tempur-Pedic sells its product through retail channels, direct to consumers, to healthcare professionals and organizations, and through third party distributors. Tempur-Pedic products are currently manufactured in company-owned plants in Aarup, Denmark, in Duffield, Virginia, and in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Albuquerque plant is a state-of-the-art 750,000 square foot manufacturing facility off Paseo del Vulcan in Bernalillo County. The plant, which is the world’s largest mattress factory, celebrated its grand opening on January 23, 2007. **\$440,029 – 51 jobs**

Bladewerx- Rio Rancho, NM - Founded in 2001, Bladewerx provides instrumentation and software engineering products and services to the radiation protection and measurement industry. Specializing in portable alpha-in-air instrumentation and client software applications, the company provides cutting edge technology in both algorithm development and attractive, practical software user-interface design. Target markets include DOE sites like Los Alamos National Lab, manufacturers of security products, and accelerator research facilities in the United States and throughout the world. Bladewerx’s domestic business is dictated by federal requirements for radiation monitoring of workers and the radiation monitoring market has seen stable to increased growth in the past few years. **\$8,104 – 1 job**

General Mills – Albuquerque, NM- Founded in the 1860’s, General Mills has grown from two flour mills to the world’s sixth largest food company. General Mills markets its products in more than 100 countries and holds the number 1 or number 2 position in virtually every category in which it competes. On average, U.S. shoppers place at least one General Mills product into their shopping carts each time they visit a grocery store. General Mills began producing Big G Cereal in Albuquerque in 1992. The company’s 438,000 square foot production facility is located on 70 acres in the North Valley. The plant operates 24/7, producing ready-to-eat cereals and granola and snack bars. The company completed a \$100 million expansion of the Albuquerque plant in 2010. **\$157,430 - 64 jobs**

Central New Mexico Community College for General Mills – Albuquerque, NM - CNM will provide Basic Mechanical/Electrical/Plant Components Skills training to JTIP participants at General Mills. This 32-hour class

will provide fundamentals in technical skills necessary to function as a member of the General Mills manufacturing team. Modules include Fasteners, Hand Tools, Lubricants, Pneumatic and Hydraulic Components, Drive Systems, Transmission Systems, Motion Systems, and Electrical and Controls. All manufacturing technicians will attend this course. **\$40,960 – jobs 64**

Herbs Etc. – Santa Fe, NM- Founded in California in the late 1960's, Herbs, Etc. has served the herbal community for more than 40 years. By 1982 the company had moved to New Mexico and was purchased by its current owner, Daniel Gagnon, who had been hired two years earlier to package herbs for shipment to pharmacies. In its early years Herbs, Etc. was primarily a retail and distribution company. The company began manufacturing in 1984. Growing demand for its products has led to expansions in both the manufacturing and retail facilities. Today Herbs, Etc. occupies more than 15,000 square feet of manufacturing space and operates a separate 2,000 square foot herbal medicine retail store. Herbs, Etc. sells to more than 2,200 natural and health food stores and health professionals in the United States. The company also distributes product in Canada, Trinidad, and Tobago. **\$9,128 – 4 jobs**

Hewlett-Packard – Rio Rancho, NM - Hewlett-Packard is the world's largest technology company, serving more than a billion customers in more than 170 countries around the world. Hewlett-Packard provides infrastructure and business offerings from handheld devices to some of the world's most powerful supercomputer installations. HP offers consumers a wide range of products and services from digital photography to digital entertainment and from computing to home printing. In January 2010 Hewlett-Packard moved into its new building in Rio Rancho. This 218,000 square foot facility includes workstations, conference rooms, and IT infrastructure to support the 1,300 employees who will eventually be employed in Rio Rancho. Employees at the Rio Rancho site provide customer support services to clients in several key areas of Hewlett-Packard's business including its Personal Systems Group, Imaging Printing Group, and Enterprise Business, formerly known as the Technology Solutions Group. **\$474,015 – jobs 58**

Liquid Common, Inc. – Albuquerque, NM - Incorporated in January 2008, Liquid Common is a privately held company which provides businesses in the dining and nightlife industries digital marketing and software publishing services. These services include custom websites, Facebook and mobile applications, e-mail systems, online gift certificates and Personal Assistant services. Liquid Common leases more than 4,000 sq. ft. of office space on Louisiana NE in Albuquerque. **\$48,200 - 8 jobs**

NanoCool – Albuquerque, NM- Launched in 2004, NanoCool is a subsidiary of NanoPore Inc. NanoCool manufactures temperature-controlled packaging for products which require refrigeration during shipping. The company sells its temperature-controlled packaging to various healthcare market segments. NanoCool products are easier to use than the alternative gel-pack based packaging. The cold chain logistic services market is expected to expand from its current \$6.1 billion to nearly \$9.5 billion by 2016. **\$21,064 – 5 jobs**

About JTIP

The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) reimburses qualified economic-based companies for a portion of training costs associated with job creation. The program provides for classroom or on-the-job training, reimbursing an expanding or relocating business for up to 75 percent of a trainee's wages for as long as six months.

To qualify, new or expanding companies must either create a product in New Mexico, or provide a non-retail service with 50 percent of the company's customer and revenue base outside of the state. The eligible jobs must be full-time and year-round. The trainee must be a new hire to the company and have been a New Mexico resident for at least one continuous year at any time prior to being hired.

For more information on JTIP, visit www.goNM.biz

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