



NEWS RELEASE

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Indiana@Work continues to add companies in Northeastern Indiana

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Gov. Joe Kernan announced today that Indiana@Work, the state's year-old workforce development initiative, has committed more than \$30,000 to three Northeastern Indiana companies.

Allen County's **Almet, Inc.** and **Parker Hannifin Corp.** as well as Whitley County's **Micropulse, Inc.** have enrolled in the program. Available through the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, Indiana@Work has dedicated \$30,612 to assess the skills of up to 445 new and existing workers and profile 12 occupational categories at the three companies.

"We've had tremendous success with Indiana@Work, and I am excited that these three companies have been added to the roster," Kernan said. "Through this program we are measuring worker's skill levels to match that individual with a specific job based on his or her abilities. This process also identifies areas for individualized training to close any gaps in skills."

- Indiana@Work has dedicated \$3,932 to New Haven's **Almet, Inc.**, which will be used to assess the skills of up to 20 existing workers. The company also will profile its structural steel fabricator and shipping/receiving foreman. Headquartered in Allen County, Almet, Inc. is a designer and fabricator of structural steel and miscellaneous metals, such as stairways and handrails, for the building industry. Founded in 1969, the company's nearly 100 hundred employees manufacture a line of stationary and portable asphalt plants that are shipped to paving contractors worldwide.
- Columbia City's **Micropulse, Inc.** will use \$10,370 from Indiana@Work to assess the skills of up to 75 people, including 35 incumbent employees and 40 job applicants to potentially fill 10 positions. In addition, the company will assess its machinist, process engineer, shipping/inventory clerk, polisher and project leader positions. The growing company, which employs more than 80 people, has served the medical device industry as a manufacturer of orthopaedic instruments and implants since 1988. Although Micropulse was founded as a precision tooling company, its current focus is on the manufacturing of medical devices, surgical instruments and orthopaedic implants.

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- Up to 350 people will be assessed at Allen County's **Parker Hannifin Corp.** with its \$16,310 award from Indiana@Work. The company is looking to potentially fill 12 job openings at its New Haven location; the remaining skills assessments will be utilized for up to 300 incumbent employees. In addition, six occupational categories will be profiled, including general assembler, inside runner, machine operator, set-up operator, shipper/receiver and quality auditor. The Parker Climate Systems Division, headquartered in New Haven, is a world leader in distributors, couplings, service valves, check valves and value-added assemblies for commercial and residential air conditioning systems. Employing more than 700 people, the company manufactures such products as copper accumulators, copper mufflers, manifolds and service valves. Parker Hannifin is the world's leading diversified manufacturer of motion and control technologies and systems, providing precision-engineered solutions for a wide variety of commercial, mobile, industrial and aerospace markets.

Indiana@Work, a joint effort between the Indiana Department of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Indiana Department of Commerce, builds around Energize Indiana's four targeted sectors: advanced manufacturing, information technology, life sciences and high-tech distribution. Available through the state's WorkOne and WorkOne Express Centers, Indiana@Work has made skills assessments available to nearly 30,000 Hoosiers and companies statewide have requested more than 700 job profiles since its inception in January.

WorkKeys® skills assessments, a comprehensive system developed by ACT® that determines and categorizes the skills necessary for a specific job, is the centerpiece of Indiana@Work. It also matches the individual's skill level to particular job requirements and serves as a foundation for training programs that close skill gaps and develop a more capable workforce.

Job profiling, the employer segment of WorkKeys®, helps businesses identify the skills and skill levels needed for workers to be successful on the job. Professional job analysts work with experienced employees to define the duties of each occupation and together, they create specific job profiles.

Through its various programs and initiatives, DWD is charged with continually improving the Hoosier workforce by assisting companies to create new jobs and improve employee skills. The agency offers a variety of training and educational grants, partners with the state's 27 WorkOne Centers, administers the unemployment insurance system, provides labor market information, assists employers with preparing workers for layoffs and closures, and operates the a statewide job placement service.

For more information on this or other DWD programs, call 1-800-465-4616 or visit the web site at www.workforce.IN.gov.

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