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June 2005

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#### Release Dates:

Please remember to contact us if your release date changes.

The newsletter is distributed every three months. Look for our next issue in September!

Contact Us:  
Transition Program  
DOC/BCE  
P.O. Box 8990  
Madison, WI 53708-8990

# Transition Program Newsletter

## **Bureau of Correctional Enterprises: Changing to serve you Better**

*Kristi Buscemi*  
*Transition Program Coordinator*

The Bureau of Correctional Enterprises manages Badger State Industries, Correctional Farms and our Recycling Projects. After a DOC committee reviewed all of the Bureau's programs, our Bureau Director made the following recommendations:

1. Have a certified training program in place for each Farm and Industry. Offenders completing the program will receive a certificate. (Note: See page 2 for information about two of our new certification programs).
2. Continue to operate and introduce up-to-date technologies in BSI shops that are seen as essential to DOC and State Government operations.
3. Provide training and experience for higher skilled jobs closer to inmate workers release date. To do this we will need to move current operations to lower security facilities, or develop training programs at all security levels.
4. Introduce new technology and new production methods that match those of jobs in the community.
5. To offer inmate workers the chance to update work skills before release through work release partnerships or, where possible, in-house operations in minimum security.
6. Expand the services offered by the BCE Transition Program.

If these recommendations are approved, any changes will be made over time. It will take a few years and a lot of hard work, but the Bureau and its inmate workforce will be better off in the end.

## **New Sign Shops Open at Stanley and New Lisbon**

The BSI Sign Shop is moving from Waupun to Stanley Correctional Institution. Production of DOT signs is scheduled to begin on June 6, 2005 at the new Sign Shop. Engraving and Interior Signage will stay at WCI until this Fall. Since new products will be added, the number of inmate workers at the WCI shop will remain the same.

Working in conjunction with the new Stanley Sign Shop is the New Lisbon Sign Recycling Shop. This shop opened on May 12, 2005 -- workers clean and strip old DOT signs, which will then be shipped to Stanley and used in production of new signs.

## **Success Story!**

Kelly Roman worked for BSI in 2004 until her release on 12/21/04. She then began a 90 day temporary job with Quad/Graphics, a printing company near Milwaukee. Recently Ms. Roman was hired on full-time, permanent as a Folder Operator and is taking tests to advance to higher level positions. Through our Supplemental Funds program we were able to help her purchase the tools required for her job. Her hard work has definitely paid off!

# Certification Information

## **A Successful Beginning: RYOCF Offenders Pass Test**

Last year we began offering a computer course at Racine Youthful Offender Correctional Facility (RYOCF) in the Computer Demanufacturing Shop. In partnership with Gateway Technical College inmates workers will receive a certificate from the Computing Technology Industry Association (Comp TIA). Upon successfully completing the program, offenders can more easily pursue a career in computer repair after release.

Three inmate workers have taken the first of two required tests. All three of them passed the Hardware Exam and have moved on to the second phase of the program. Four more workers recently started the program. GREAT WORK!

## **Oshkosh Laundry Inmate Workers Receive Certification**

Six inmates working in the Oshkosh Correctional Institution Laundry were recently presented with certificates of completion for finishing the National Association of Institutional Linen Management (NAILM) correspondence courses. The Certified Washroom Technician course gives the inmate workers a better understanding of the wash process. The Certified Linen Technician course trains workers in inventory procedures and quality standards.

In the future, the Bureau of Correctional Enterprises / Badger State Industries (BSI) plans to implement this certification program in other BSI laundries.

**CONGRATULATIONS ON A  
JOB WELL DONE!!**

*Our lives are not determined by what happens to us but by how we react to what happens, not by what life brings to us, but by the attitude we bring to life. A positive attitude causes a chain reaction of positive thoughts, events, and outcomes. It is a catalyst, a spark that creates extraordinary results.*

~Anonymous