

The CW REPORT

Empowerment through Employment

Spring 2009

CW Group, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation with the mission of creating employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and other challenged populations, as well as supporting and assisting small businesses.

It is comprised of three subsidiaries:

CW Resources,
Connecticut Enterprise Center
 and
CW Enterprises.

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CW Resources Goes Hollywood

Connecticut was in the middle of an ice and snow storm, but inside the CW River Valley Products food processing plant it was like a Hollywood set—only this was reality. For two days in January a team of five professional photographers and videographers recorded CW’s disabled workers packaging Maxwell House coffee for shipment to the U.S. military.

NISH, a national agency supporting nonprofit agencies participating in the AbilityOne Program which provides employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, asked CW to participate in the photo shoot to highlight the food processing capabilities of an AbilityOne community rehabilitation program. The still photography and video will be used for promotional purposes as CW is a leader in partnering with national food brands like Kraft (Maxwell House), Sara Lee and S&D Coffee.

“It was an honor to be chosen by NISH to spotlight our food processing for the AbilityOne Program. It was a great experience because it put the attention on our disabled workers that are working so hard on this project. To see the smiles on the faces of our workers was inspiring,” said Alix Capsalors, CW Vice President of Production.

Joe, one of the workers, has limited eyesight. In the video interview he revealed that he was let go of his job as a dietary supervisor when his eyesight deteriorated in his early thirty’s. He is so pleased to be working again. As he says, “ I love to work. My vision may be weak, but my back is strong. This job allows me to contribute my fair share in society. ”

The more than 1,900 photos and hours of video are still in the process of being reviewed and edited, but for those privileged enough to have been involved in the photo shoot, those days will long be remembered as our little slice of fame.

Scenes from the set



CW Photo Gallery



Lisa Peterson, of the Bristol Center, practices in anticipation of the CW Star Search talent show.



CW's Greater Waterbury Center hosted a St. Patrick's Day party to socialize with other Centers. Among other activities, they listened to Celtic music and made green cookies and pies.



CW's Singing Chef, Arthur Atwood, carving turkey at the New Britain Senior Center.

Acme Monaco - A Right Fit



Steve Hood working on the rewinder machine at Acme Monaco Corporation.

Everyone strives to have the right fit with their job, but especially for persons with disabilities, this is not always possible. Acme Monaco Corporation and Steve Hood seem to have made the perfect pairing.

Steve was hired in January of 2003 after a trial period by the New Britain manufacturer and assistance from CW Resources. With a few accommodations, such as transportation issues, Steve and Acme Monaco are now a team.

Steve's job title is Parts Cleaner, but according to his supervisor, Randy Clair, Facilities

Manager, "He's willing to do whatever is asked of him." In fact, Steve has recently progressed into production work, repacking specialized orthodontic wires as well as some packing and shipping work. "I feel comfortable here and enjoy the work. I feel good that they are teaching me some new things too," said Steve when asked how he liked working.

And Acme Monaco likes Steve also. In 2006 they nominated him as Employee of the Year at the New Britain Commission on Disabilities Award Breakfast for his dedication to the job and willingness to do whatever was asked of him. "Acme Monaco has a long history of taking pride in the cleanliness of its shop. I've made up a daily cleaning schedule and Steve knows just what machines and areas need his attention. He works very independently," says Randy.

Steve has held other jobs through CW Resources, but this one is the best fit and he hopes to be there for a long time. "I feel like part of the family here." His wife Pat is employed in CW's Food Service Department in the meals on wheels program and is justifiably proud of her husband.

Acme Monaco a manufacturer of springs, retainer rings, wireforms, stampings and wire products for the dental and medical fields, has been owned by the Karabin family since 1965. They employ approximately 125 individuals in their New Britain plant. Worldwide they employ 200 in their Presque Isle, Maine and Singapore facilities. The company has long been a supporter of hiring persons with disabilities and have hired many throughout the years. One employee, has worked for them for 25 years and has perfect attendance. What better commendation can you receive!



Test Your Disability Knowledge True or False

1. People with disabilities are not more likely to have accidents than other employees.

TRUE: Two studies, one conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and another by the DuPont Company, support the findings that workers with disabilities performed significantly higher than their non-disabled counterparts in the area of safety. Workers with disabilities are more often aware, not less, of safety issues in the workplace.

2. Persons with disabilities are unable to meet performance standards, thus making them a bad employment risk.

FALSE: In 1990, DuPont conducted a survey of 811 employees with disabilities and found that 90% rated average or better in job performance compared to 95% for employees without disabilities. A similar study involving 2,745 employees with disabilities found that 92% of employees with disabilities rated average or better compared to 90% of employees without disabilities.

3. People who use wheelchairs cannot work in a fast-paced, pressure job.

FALSE: The ability to use a wheelchair is separate from ability to work quickly and to work under stress. Give the person ample room to maneuver their chair and let them go!

4. People with disabilities tend to do work of higher quality than employees without disabilities.

TRUE: In several studies, it was found that 91% of the workers with disabilities scored average or higher when compared to the general workforce. Their attendance is also better.

5. People with disabilities live very different lives than people without disabilities.

FALSE: Overall, people with disabilities like the same as you and I. Although some ways of doing things may be a little bit different depending on the type and severity of the disability.

6. Certain jobs are more suited to people with disabilities.

FALSE: As with all people, certain jobs may be better suited to some than others. While there may be some obvious bad job matches, be careful not to pigeon hole people into or out of certain occupations based on their disability.

7. It is important to place people with disabilities in jobs where they will not fail.

FALSE: Everyone has the right to fail as well as to succeed. Be careful not to hold someone back from a position or a promotion because you think there is a possibility that he or she might fail in the position.

Thank You



From left: Alix Capsalors, Vice President of Production; Rose Tallant, NISH honoree; Ron Buccilli, CW President and Bill Blonski, Sales Manager.

Rose Tallant was presented a plaque at CW Resources' Board of Director's meeting on January 28, 2009 in recognition of her dedication and support in the pursuit of creating jobs for persons with disabilities.

She is the NISH Business Development Manager/Key Account Manager, DSCP-Subsistence Directorate located at the Defense Supply Center Philadelphia (DSCP) and the "go-to person in getting food items for NISH on the procurement list".

This can be a long and tedious journey. "Rose was with us from day one working to get and keep CW on the radar screen. She was a key person in our getting the coffee contract and is actively soliciting other food products on our behalf," said Alix Capsalors, who presented her with the plaque.

Rose was at CW Resources acting as a NISH liaison during the two day photo shoot and ice storm. Besides helping CW employ many people with disabilities, she is to be commended for her tenacity in getting through the storm. Thank you Rose.

Thank You Donors — September 2008—Present

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Donor Opportunities

1. Prepare a will. Without one, you lose control of the possessions you worked a lifetime to acquire.
2. Leave a gift in your will for the charitable organization that made a difference in your life or in the life of someone you love.
3. Donate a specific dollar amount or a percentage of the assets in your will to your favorite charity. The provision can be part of a new will or added to your existing will.
4. Consider using assets for your charitable gift. These include , but are not limited to, stocks, bonds, real estate, art and jewelry. Such gift may provide tax savings.
5. Name your favorite non-profit as the beneficiary of your IRA or pension plan.
6. Purchase a new life insurance policy naming a nonprofit as the beneficiary.
7. Name your favorite nonprofit as the beneficiary of an existing life insurance policy.
8. Remember deceased loved ones with memorial gifts to nonprofits.
9. Encourage family members and friends to leave gifts to nonprofits in their wills.
10. Ask your legal or financial advisor to include charitable giving as part of their counsel to other clients.

*For more information contact your financial advisor or
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