



News Release

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Workers from Von Weise, Inc. in Nappanee eligible for federal aid

INDIANAPOLIS (March 20, 2008) – The Indiana Department of Workforce Development today announced a ruling by the U.S. Department of Labor that former employees of Von Weise, Inc. in Nappanee are eligible to receive services under the federal Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

The TAA program, which is administered at the state level by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, is made available to workers who are displaced due to foreign imports or shifts in production out of the country.

The federal ruling was issued on March 6, 2008 and applies to workers who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after February 25, 2007 through March 6, 2010. The workers produce D.C. motor assemblies and motor armature assemblies.

In order for dislocated workers to be eligible for TAA benefits, a company executive, union representative or three former employees must file a petition with the Department of Labor and it must be approved before benefits can be released.

The TAA program provides a variety of benefits and services to help unemployed workers prepare for and obtain suitable employment. Workers may be eligible for a variety of re-employment services, job search and relocation allowances and training. In addition, weekly trade re-adjustment allowances may be payable to eligible workers following the exhaustion of unemployment insurance benefits.

The federal government also ruled that workers at Von Weise are eligible for Alternative Trade Adjustment Assistance (ATAA), a separate program aimed at older workers. The ruling found that a significant number of workers at the firm are age 50 or over and possess skills that are not easily transferable, and that competitive conditions within the industry are adverse.

Eligible parties may obtain information at their local WorkOne center. A listing of all of the centers can be found at http://www.in.gov/dwd/employers/workone_centers.html.