

Near \$36.5 million grant to aid ex-Seaswirl workers

by Bend Weekly News Sources

Grants also awarded to assist former employees of TTM Technologies in Dallas, and Weyerhaeuser's Bauman Plywood in Lebanon

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced a \$490,930 grant to provide assistance to approximately 100 workers affected by the closure of Seaswirl Boats in Culver, Ore.

"This \$490,930 grant will help workers access employment services and training opportunities so they can transition to new jobs in growing industries," said Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao.

The grant, awarded to the Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development, will provide affected workers with an array of employment services that may include assessment, individual counseling, career and occupational skills training, and adult education.

In February 2007, Seaswirl Boats announced the closing of its Culver facility. Immediately following the announcement, the state of Oregon conducted three days of rapid response activities to inform affected workers of the types of assistance available to them through the workforce investment system.

“Oregonians affected by the closure of Seaswirl Boats will receive valuable employment-related assistance through this grant,” said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training Emily Stover DeRocco. “The services this grant helps provide will give these workers an opportunity to prepare for good jobs in industries experiencing growth.”

The agency also awarded a \$1,351,216 grant to assist about 180 workers affected by the closure of the TTM Technologies Inc. - formerly known as Tyco Electronics - facility in Dallas, Ore.; and \$197,925 to aid 50 Oregon workers affected by the closure of the Weyerhaeuser Co.’s Bauman Plywood and Planer site in Lebanon that permanently closed March 30.

National Emergency Grants are part of the secretary of labor’s discretionary fund and are awarded based on a state’s ability to meet specific guidelines. For more information on National Emergency Grants and other Department of Labor employment and training programs, please visit www.doleta.gov/NEG.

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