



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 24, 2006

Contact:

Sandra Powell (401) 462-8803
Workforce Development

Department of Labor and Training to Meet Displaced Teknor Apex Employees On-Site

PAWTUCKET – Adelita S. Orefice, Director of the Department of Labor and Training (DLT), announced that DLT met with Teknor Apex officials yesterday about their plans to layoff approximately 110 Rhode Island workers. Teknor Apex, a multi-national manufacturer of rubber and plastic compounds, notified the Department of their anticipated staggered layoff schedule, which will continue until the end of the year.

DLT's Rapid Response team will be deployed to meet with affected employees on-site to assist in filing Unemployment Insurance (UI) claims and provide guidance on additional employment programs such as vocational assessment, skills training, and job search assistance. Employees will also learn more about DLT's six netWORKri Career Centers across the state. netWORKri is ready to assist any job seeker, whether the goal is a first job, a better job, or a career change. Customers can access a resource library, personal computers, the Internet, fax and copy machines at no charge to help in their job search or participate in peer support groups and networking sessions. For more information, call 1-888-616-JOBS or go to www.netWORKri.org.

Director Orefice noted, "DLT is pleased to be working so closely with representatives from Teknor Apex to quickly respond to the needs of these displaced workers. I am confident that this coordinated effort will ease the transition and connect these workers to the important services available at the Department, helping them readily transition into new employment opportunities."

– 30 –

The Rhode Island Department of Labor and Training offers a wide array of employment and training services to both the general public and to individuals with unusual barriers to employment. DLT is ready to assist any job seeker, whether the goal is a first job, a better job or a career change. Rhode Island's workforce is protected through the enforcement of labor laws, prevailing wage rates, and workplace health and safety standards. Temporary income support is available to unemployed, sick or injured workers, and a comprehensive rehabilitation program is available to those injured on the job.

DLT is dedicated to the growth and competitiveness of Rhode Island industry, administering a variety of training grants, tax credits, and apprenticeship programs to help employers. Economic indicators and labor market information are available for long-range planning. The Agency engages in active outreach, helping large and small employers retain their best workers or retrain their existing work force. At no cost to the employer, DLT will also screen job applicants, post job vacancies, and help businesses institute cost-sharing programs that can avert layoffs.

For more information on the innovative programs and services available to all Rhode Islanders at the Department of Labor and Training, please call (401) 462-8000 or visit the web site at www.dlt.ri.gov.

Equal Opportunity Employer
Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities
TDD (401) 462-8006

Marketing/Communications • 1511 Pontiac Avenue • Cranston, RI 02920
www.dlt.ri.gov

Governor Donald L. Carcieri  Director Adelita S. Orefice