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RI Department of Labor and Training Receives National Recognition for Third Straight Year

The National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA) recently announced the 2005 Labor Market Information Communication/Publication Awards at its annual meeting. Rhode Island's Department of Labor and Training, Labor Market Information (LMI) Division received national recognition for the third straight year.

Rhode Island received the First Place award in the category of Product or Service to Increase Workforce Development Staff's Understanding of Labor Market and Workforce Information for the "NAICS and SOC Brochures – An explanation of Industry and Occupational Coding." The judges felt that these brochures would be very helpful to workforce investment board staff who are unfamiliar with the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) terminology.

"Following several meetings with career and workforce development professionals in our department, it became clear that there was some confusion among them regarding the differences between industries and occupations," said Robert J. Langlais, Assistant Director for Labor Market Information. "The NAICS and SOC brochures were developed to provide users of labor market information with a clearer understanding of the two classification systems."

The National Association of State Workforce Agencies is the national organization of state officials who administer employment and training services, Unemployment Insurance laws, and labor market information programs in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The state LMI divisions produce, analyze, and distribute workforce information vital to economic, education, and career decision-making. These statistics include employment, unemployment, and wage information produced through federal-state cooperative programs administered by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

"An expanded interest in meeting customer needs has impacted the types of LMI products currently being developed and delivered," said Department of Labor and Training Director, Adelita S. Orefice. "It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the Department's Labor Market Information Division on receiving this prestigious NASWA award and for their contribution in analyzing and translating critical economic data into easy-to-use information for decision-making."

Products developed by labor market information staff contribute to the knowledge of human resource utilization for employment security, job training, occupational, economic, and other workforce development planners. For copies of the brochures mentioned above and other labor market publications, please contact the LMI Division at (401) 462-8740 or email lmi@dlt.ri.gov or visit the LMI web site at www.dlt.ri.gov/lmi.

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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 work force is protected through the enforcement of labor



laws, prevailing wage rates, and work place 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.

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Auxiliary aids and services are available up on request to individuals with disabilities / TDD (401) 462-8006