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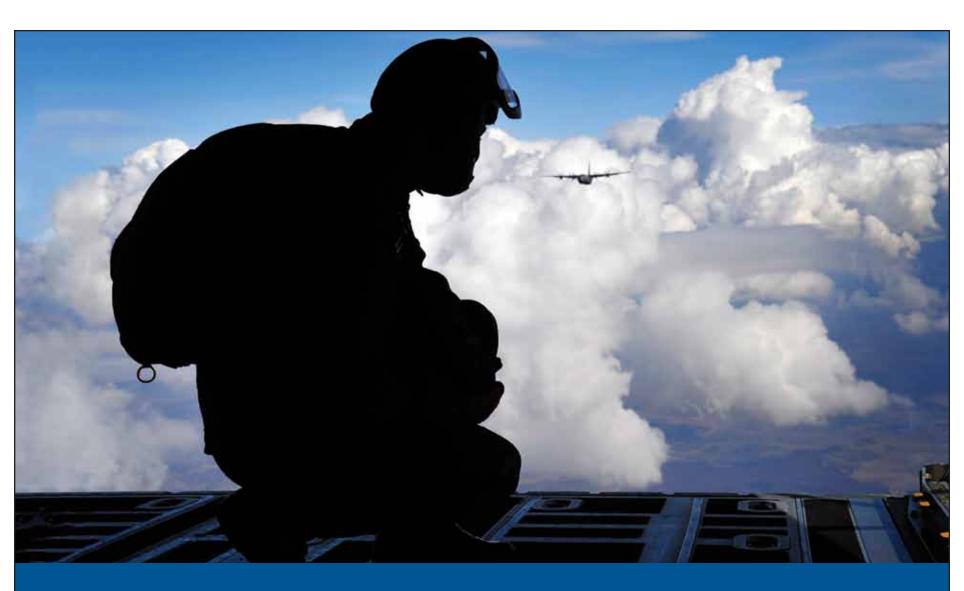


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John Winkler Snap-on Tools Franchisee Army Veteran

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- 2 / IS FRANCHISING FOR YOU? OPPORTUNITIES AROUND
- EVERY CORNER

 4 / EDUCATOR OUTREACH

DIRECTORY

- 8 / FRANCHISE DIRECTORY
- 14 / USING THE SAME SKILLS
 A Buyer's Choice Home Inspections
- 16 / WHEN IS THE RIGHT TIME TO BUY A FRANCHISE? MARKET FORCES SAY NOW!
- 18 / YOUR RESEARCH GUIDE
 TO FRANCHISE OWNERSHIP
- 20 / UNCLE SAM WANTS YOU FOR A CIVILIAN JOB Opportunities in the Federal Government
- 21 / GOVERNMENT AGENCY DIRECTORY
- 23 / YOUR RESEARCH GUIDE TO GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT
- 24 / BUILDING AND DEVELOPING TEAMS Snap-on Tools
- 25 / THE RIGHT TOOLS IN THE RIGHT HANDS Snap-On Tools veteran spotlight
- 26 / CHECKED IT OUT, GOT A JOB Amtrak
- 27 / A CULTURE OF SUPPORT Comcast Corporation

- 28 / ADHERENCE TO STRONG VALUES Cincom Systems, Inc.
- 30 / OPEN MIND PMAUSA
- 32 / FOR BEST RESULTS: STEP UP! MidFirst Bank
- 34 / BE YOUR OWN SKILLS TRANSLATOR
 PeopleScout
- 36 / RED CARPET TO A JOB AdvancePierre Foods
- 38 / FILLING CYBERSECURITY ROLES
 Parsons Corporation
- 40 / MAKING A MATCH
- 42 / HOW TO WORK
 A RECRUITMILITARY
 OPPORTUNITY EXPO
- 44 / PREPARATION WAS HIS KEY TO SUCCESS
- 46 / SPECIAL SECTION FOR VETERAN HIRING LEADERS
 - RecruitMilitary Adds
- Three Veterans to Staff
- 2013: A Great Year for ExposAn Update on Military Skill Sets
- RecruitMilitary wins
 its second WEDDLE's award
- 48 / ADVERTISERS INDEX

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A note from Peter

IN THIS ISSUE, we turn our attention to opportunities in government service and business franchising. At first glance, it might seem as if those fields of endeavor have little in common. But both paths are excellent choices for many veterans, and both leverage the skills and attributes that make veterans successful.

Government service can be a logical next step for transitioning military members. The service ethic to the common good, the often prescribed career paths, and the ability to build pension benefits are all familiar to the military veteran. RecruitMilitary has a long history of working with government clients at the federal, state, and even local levels to help them identify high-quality veteran talent. Franchising, on the other hand, attracts those who have an entrepreneurial flair but still desire the comfort and security of working in a business brand whose processes have been proven to work.

NEW PARTNER

With this issue, RecruitMilitary is proud to announce its partnership with a national franchise brokerage company, eAuth.com (The Entrepreneur Authority, or "TEA"). Our partnership will enable us to reach more veterans with the education and connections they need to determine whether franchising is a good fit for them.

TEA was founded in 2002. It operates 15 offices from New England to Hawaii and most major metropolitan markets in between. More than 80% of its franchise brokers were veterans or children of veterans. The company has received many awards; it is the only franchise brokerage firm ever to win the Chairman's Award from the American Association of Franchisees and Dealers (AAFD). All TEA Consultants are enrolled in the Certified Franchise Executive (CFE) program of the Institute of Certified Franchise Executives (http://www.franchise.org/CFE/CFEHome.aspx).

As always, RecruitMilitary stands ready to assist you with your quest for career satisfaction. The year 2014 will bring more innovations on our job board at www.recruitmilitary. com, at our all-military job fairs from coast to coast, and in the pages of this magazine. We look forward to serving you, and we thank you for your service to our country.

All the best,

Peter A. Gudmundsson CEO and President, RecruitMilitary peter@recruitmilitary.com

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ABOUT RECRUITMILITARY

RecruitMilitary, the publisher of Search & Employ® is a full-service military-to-civilian recruitment firm that connects job seekers who have military backgrounds with employers, franchisors, and educational institutions.

Our hiring services are free to men and women of all ranks/rates and all branches of the service who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life. veterans who already have civilian work experience members of the National Guard and reserves, and military spouses and other family members

In addition to publishing Search & Employ® we produce Veteran Opportunity Expos throughout the United States, operate a job board and a database of more than 660,000 registered job seekers at www.recruitmilitary.com, email a monthly jobs newsletter called The VetTen, maintain a website that carries links to employers sites and careers pages, and conduct direct recruiting with our own staff of recruiters.

All of RecruitMilitary's officers and most of our other employees have served in the armed forces. RecruitMilitary was founded in 1998 by Drew Myers, formerly a captain in the United States Marine Corps.

In 2011, RecruitMilitary received the First Annual Lee Anderson Small Business Veteran and Military Spouse Employment Award from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring our Heroes program. The program recognized RecruitMilitary as a specific business that has "gone above and beyond to honor the sacrifices our military families make in their service to our nation.'

In 2012, RecruitMilitary received the first annual One More Way Award from The Sierra Group Foundation. The foundation established the award to recognize people or companies whose support results in awareness of and job opportunities for people with disabilities. The Sierra Group Foundation (www.thesierragroup.com/foundation.htm) is a non-profit organization whose mission is "to drive up employment for people

with disabilities, including veterans.'

In 2013, RecruitMilitary's website won a User's Choice Award from Weddle's (www.weddles.com) a publisher of guides and directories that focus on the employment-related area of the Internet. The awards are a result of a year-long annual survey conducted by Weddle's to recognize "the elite of the online employment industry." The judges are recruiters and job seekers who have used the sites.

In 2013, RecruitMilitary was a finalist for the Capital One Award for Small Business Veteran and Military Spouse Employment – an award bestowed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring Our Heroes program.

In 2014, RecruitMilitary's website again won a User's Choice Award from Weddle's.

RecruitMilitary is a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the International Association of Employment Web Sites, and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau.









LL ONE HAS TO DO is drive down Main Street to see that franchises are popping up all over. The traditional "Mom and Pop" stores that used to dominate America's brick-and-mortar marketplace have largely been replaced by a variety of franchises that cover everything from tree care to specialized footand-shoe services. business for themselves.

But before you conclude that corporate giants are putting those Mom's and Pop's out of business. consider this: Those franchises that are popping up everywhere are actually run by people just like the Mom's and Pop's who used to be the owners of "Roger's Hardware" and "Betty's Hobby Shop." But now, the Mom's and Pop's have the backing of franchises that have already established success

Don't feel badly uniformed if you think of only Taco Bell or Subway when somebody mentions a franchise. Quick-service restaurants count for a lot of franchises. But there are franchises for everything from buying high quality olive oil to preparing houses for wheelchair ramps. Just about every occupation has a franchise tied to it somewhere.

There is an old saying about franchising – "In franchising you're in business for yourself, but never by yourself." This is certainly true whether vou are selling Italian ice or cutting grass. Franchising lets people own their own businesses, but also gives them the backing of larger organizations when it comes to such factors as marketing and getting the best deals from suppliers.

There are plenty of other advantages to be being a franchisee. Perhaps the most important is learning how to start a business from the ground up. Other rewards include the use of established, recognized brands; training; ongoing support; and assistance with business systems.

NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT

→ While the economy seems to be getting better it's still not back to the pre-recession glory days when

it seemed that every business was a franchisee a less risky proposition printing its own money. So it might than going it completely alone. seem that this isn't the best time to start a franchise. However, small businesses – including franchises – actually increase in number during periods of weak economic activity. When people lose their jobs with large companies and cannot guickly find similar jobs with other employers, they often decide to go into

Even better, it is no longer considbig corporation to a small business. In fact, some corporations view small business experience as a plus because small business owners must focus on cash flow, cost containment, customer retention, also important to the corporations. In recent recessions, the number of small businesses grew. For example, during the 2001-2003 recession, the number of personal million to 18.6 million. The most recent recession followed the same trends. Why? The costs of starting and maintaining a small business especially a franchise - are significantly lower than in past recessions. Specifically, the costs associated with computers, Internet access, commercial real estate, and office

On the flip side, starting any business comes with a certain level of risk, as well as the possibility that the business will not reach the goals its owners set. Statistics indicate that many small businesses will fail. However, becoming a franchisee increases the odds of success. According to the International Franchise Association (IFA), only 10 to 12 percent of all retail and service the United States will increase by enterprises are franchises, yet the franchises account for more than 50 percent of the revenues of those enterprises. This means that, even sectors, they bring in most of the money. These percentages, coupled franchise's backing, make becoming 5.5 percent in Real Estate.

equipment have dropped.

PROJECTIONS FOR 2014

→ According to a report prepared for the International Franchise Association Educational Foundation, real GDP (gross domestic product adjusted for inflation) will grow by 2.7 percent in 2014. Fueling the growth will a much smaller federal fiscal drag combined with continued improvements in consumer ered a step backward to go from a spending, housing, exports, and business-equipment investment. The report, Franchise Business Economic Outlook for 2014, was prepared by IHS Global Insight, an economic analysis and forecasting firm, and published in January 2014; and overall survival—all of which are it is available at http://emarket.franchise.org/FranchiseBusinessOutlook2014.pdf.

The report projects an acceleration of growth in consumer spending from a rate of 2 percent in 2013 businesses increased from 16.9 to a rate of 2.8 percent in 2014. The implications for the franchise sector in 2014 are continued gains in employment growth and a modest acceleration of output growth

> The report bases its projections on data on franchises engaged in 10 broad lines of business:

- Automotive
- Business Services Commercial
- and Residential Services
- Lodaina Personal Services
- Quick Service Restaurants
- Real Estate
- Retail Food
- Retail Products and Services Table/Full Service Restaurants

The report forecasts that the number of franchise establishments in 1.7 percent in 2014, ahead of the

2013 growth rate of 1.4 percent. The report indicates that employment in franchise establishments will inthough franchises are actually out- crease 2.3 percent in 2014, matchnumbered in the retail and service ing the pace of growth in 2013. The growth projection differs among industrial groups, ranging from a with the advantages of having a low of 3.6 percent in Retail Food to

The *Outlook* projects that Business Services will lead the franchise-business lines in employment growth and establishment growth, and will rank third in output growth. Real Estate will rank first in output growth, third in establishment growth, and fourth in employment growth. Quick Service Restaurants – the largest ranchise-business line – will rank hird in employment growth in 2014 and second in output growth. According to the report, franchises

will add nearly 200,000 jobs in 2014.

The pace of employment gains will remain steady compared with 2013, but will continue to outpace total employment growth in the private sector by 0.3 percent. The number of franchise businesses in 2014 will rise by 12,915 in 2014, bringing total establishments to 770,368. The growth rate of establishments will rise to 1.7 percent in 2014 from 1.4 percent in 2013. This gain will continue to be in line with the growth of overall business formation across the economy. Within the franchising sector, Business Services, Commercial and Residential Services, and Quick Service restaurants will drive job creation in 2014. With the fastest growth rate, the Business Services line will add 35,109 franchise jobs. Quick Service Restaurants, the largest sector in franchising, will create

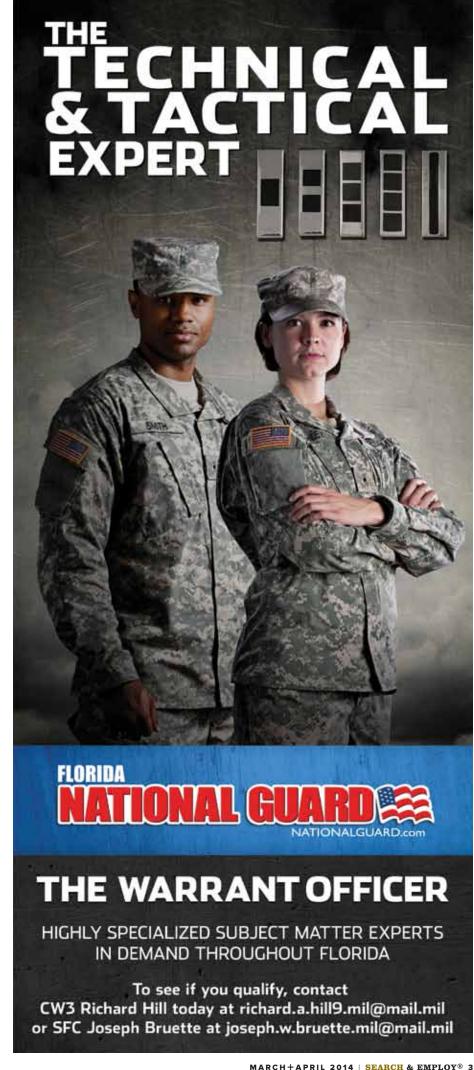
VETERAN STRATEGIC INITIATIVE

→ The IFA also plays a big role in veteran hiring and veteran ownership. In 2011, the IFA launched Operation Enduring Opportunity to bring more veterans, wounded warriors, and military spouses into franchising. According to a report published in November 2013, that mission has helped bring 151,557 such individuals into franchising -146,365 as employees and 5,192 as owners. The report, Veterans in Franchising: A Progress Report, was prepared for the IFA by Franchise Business Review, a franchise market-research firm based in Portsmouth, New Hampshire; it is available at www.vetfran.com/wpcontent/uploads/2013/11/VetFranStudy_2013.pdf.

Operation Enduring Opportunity is built on the IFA's VetFran strategic initiative (www.vetfran.com), which has worked since 1991 to make franchise ownership more accessible through member companies by offering financial incentives, training,

With the economy looking better and opportunities around every corner, this might be the best time for a while to become a franchisee. The opportunities are robust, the economics are right, and the resources are available. In short, things are looking great for anyone thinking about buying a franchise in 2014.





2 | SEARCH & EMPLOY® MARCH+APRIL 2014

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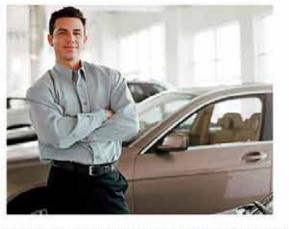
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8 | SEARCH & EMPLOY® MARCH+APRIL 2014



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Little Caesars Corporation	http://franchise.littlecaesars.com/
MaaS Pros	www.maasprosfranchising.com/
Mac Tools	www.mactools.com/tabid/8489/Default.aspx
Market America	www.marketamerica.com/
MATCO Tools	www.matcotools.com/franchise/
Next Day Access	www.ndafranchise.com/
9Round Fitness Franchise	www.9round.com/
Office Pride Commercial Cleaning Services	http://officepridefranchise.com/
One Click Cleaners	www.oneclickcleaners.com/veterangrants.html
OpenWorks	http://openworksweb.com/franchise-opportunities.aspx
Outdoor Living Brands, Inc.	www.outdoorlivingbrands.com/FranchiseOpportunities.html
PAK Mail	www.OpenMyPakMail.com/veterans
PATI Pure Air Technologies, Inc.	www.airpati.com/franchise.htm
Pillar to Post	www.home-inspection-franchise-opportunity.com/

www.leadingtheserviceindustry.com/AboutRainbowIntl.asp

www.snapfitness.com/fitness-franchise-opportunitie

http://strategicfranchising.com/franchise-opportunities/

http://franchise.spring-green.com/ www.stanlevsteemer.com/Home/Franchising.aspx

http://franchise.svlvanlearning.com/

www.synergyhomecarefranchise.com/

www.twomenandatruckfranchising.com/home

www.valpakfranchising.com/franchising/index.isp#About-Us

www.entrepreneurssource.com/

www.franchiseconnection.org/

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UTDOOR LIVING BRANDS. headquartered in Richdesign and installation services to mond, Virginia, is a franchiresidential clients. sor created to offer strength through synergy: The company is home to The following year, Outdoor Livfour brands. "The vision behind our strategic plan was to assemble

ing Brands added its third franchise, Mosquito Squad. That business was founded by Boyd Honeycutt and Scott Zide, who had been the COO of Outdoor Lighting Perspectives and 275 franchisees throughout North is now president and COO of Outdoor Living Brands. Mosquito Squad was North America's first franchise ed, enjoying the diversification opconcept to target the elimination of mosquitoes and ticks and the diseases they can bring to families and

the Wood Re New franchise system. That business provided cleaning, sealing, and protecting services for wood decks and cedar siding, and so and conversion franchise programs. appeared to be a great fit for the growing Outdoor Living Brands family.

resentatives of the two companies Re New service offerings. As a result. its second franchise, Outdoor Light- they supplemented their services ing Perspectives. That business, and products to give franchisees

founded in 1995, provides lighting the ability to clean and protect all outdoor surfaces. Thus, in October 2012. Renew Crew was born and became part of Outdoor Living Brands.

THE COMPANY TODAY

Archadeck, Outdoor Lighting Perspectives, Mosquito Squad, and Renew Crew have welcomed over America and abroad. More than 40 of the franchisees are multi-brandportunities of partnering two and even three brands together.

Outdoor Living Brands offers incentive discounts to franchisees who are interested in adding of one of • In 2011, Outdoor Living Brands the sister brands. The company also met with the founders and owners of offers discounts to franchisees and business owners currently operating businesses outside of the companies' franchises through their add-on

The Franchise Research Institute (www.franchiseresearchinstitute. During acquisition talks, the rep- com) has designated all four franchise concepts as World Class sought ways to broaden the Wood Franchises. The institute conducts franchisee-satisfaction research via

Continued on Page 10 >

EQUIPMENT SERVICES.

a family of related outdoor-living

oriented businesses under one com-

mon umbrella franchise support

organization," said Chris Grandpre,

Grandpre had been a merger and

acquisition investment banker; and

in 2006, he transitioned from the

financial industry to take on the lead-

ership of Archadeck, an outdoor de-

sign and construction firm that had

been founded in 1980. Grandpre and

Archadeck's board of directors then

began to identify ways to grow the

Archadeck franchise system and to

explore diversification opportunities.

In 2008, Outdoor Living Brands

was formed to serve as the parent

company and acquisition vehicle. In

October 2008, the company bought

the company's chairman and CEO.

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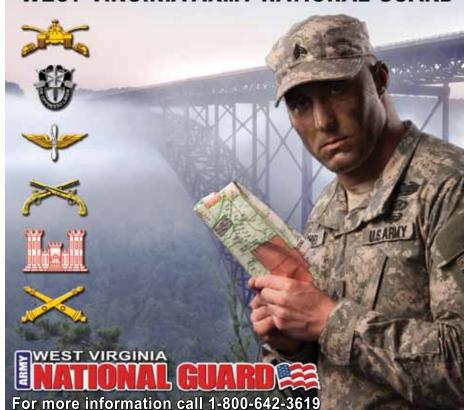
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confidential, third-party surveys. Outdoor Living franchise opportunities have also been Money, and The Wall Street Journal.

INITIATIVES FOR VETERANS

More than 30 of Outdoor Living Brands franchisees are veterans, and the company has watched these new business owners flourish. Rich Young, vice president of operations and tives, attributes their success to their military training and experiences. "Veterans come to the table with a can-do attitude and the drive. determination, and self-discipline needed to successfully launch and grow their busistrate honesty and integrity and have proven leadership skills; all qualities and attributes that are synonymous with military veterans." Over the past two years, the company's franchise development teams have pursued several initiatives to help servicemen, servicewomen, and their families reach their dreams of business ownership. Partnering with the International Franchise Association's Veterans Transition Franchise Initiative (VetFran), the program offers veterans franchise fee discounts. With Archadeck and Outdoor Lighting Perspectives, veterans can receive 15 percent off their initial franchise fees. Mosquito Squad and Renew Crew have a flat discount of \$2,500.

SETTING UP IN ATLANTA

Outdoor Living Brands also heightens fran- He had spent six years in the Marine Corps, chise awareness among servicemen and servicewomen by attending military recruitment events and job fairs throughout the country. As a result of this activity, Outdoor Lighting employees on a daily basis.' Perspectives recently welcomed Marine Corps Reservist Charles Rich to their franchise.

Rich first learned about the franchise at the Recruit Military Job Fair in Atlanta in October 2013. There, he met with Shemar Pucel, franchise recruitment consultant with Outdoor Lighting Perspectives and Archadeck. Rich was intrigued by the business opportunity currently available in the Atlanta market. In addition to his work in the U.S. Marine Corps. Rich had also spent over 13 years in electrical business ownership.

Rich was able to utilize the VetFran discount and launch Outdoor Lighting Perspectives of North East Atlanta in the spring of 2014.

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ CHARLES BOSWELL

Charles Boswell is a sophomore Mosquito United States Navy. He left the service as a a veteran's discount on my franchise fee." petty officer, second class (E-5), having served as a construction and electrical specialist.

He attributes the success of his franchise - located in Victoria, Texas - to his military experience and focused discipline. "Mosquito Squad is a great place for veterans because recognized by Entrepreneur, the Inc. 5000, CNN they offer the opportunity to build a team where everyone works together for a common

When asked what advice he would offer men and women who are leaving the military and considering franchising opportunities with Outdoor Living Brands, he said this: "Start with the end in mind. Ask yourself where you want brand leader with Outdoor Lighting Perspector be in five, 10, 15, even 20 years from now. Will the franchise opportunity bring you closer to your goals or move you away from them? Believe in the economic system you served to defend. Put into practice the skills you have already learned. Follow the training and procenesses," he said. "Successful franchisees his- dures of the organization to the best of your torically are decisive individuals who demonability. Most importantly, enjoy your success."



A VETERAN SUCCESS_ JEREMY L. JACOBS

Jeremy L. Jacobs Jaunched his Mosquito Squad franchise in Houma, Louisiana, in 2013. working in communications and data systems He said, "My experiences leading Marines in the field helped me to be prepared for leading

Being adaptable comes in handy, too. "My experience running a section in garrison helped me to be prepared to operate my business at a high level." Jacobs said. "The Marine Corps helped me to develop an attitude of adaptability. There will always be obstacles and changes on the job, but the ability to adapt and overcome to any situation is a key way of life in the military and in business.

Being able to run his own show, but still have the support of a larger organization is imporand lighting sales. He saw the franchise opportant to Jacobs. "Mosquito Squad was a great tunity with Outdoor Lighting Perspectives as a opportunity for me as a veteran, because it great way to reach his goals and aspirations of allowed me to get into my own business while still having the support of the larger Mosquito Squad and Outdoor Living Brands family," he with Outdoor Lighting Perspectives. He was said. "There were other veteran business owndue to complete his training in February 2014 ers and support personnel who were available to answer my questions and help me to realize the potential of my business. There was a low barrier of entry and a lot of excellent opportunities that played to my strengths. The franchise also assisted me in looking at all of my Squad franchisee who spent five years in the financing options as a veteran as well as giving

Continued on Page 12 >





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SHANE SHIPMAN

Captain U.S. Army, APi Group employee

< Continued from Page 10

Jacobs recommends that veterans consider all of their options when they are transitioning into the civilian world. "I would tell other veterans to make sure they understand the benefits and opportunities available to them," he said. "There are lots of options available for veterans who want to continue their education or start a business. A franchise like Mosquito Squad could be a great way to get into business in a veteran-friendly environment."

He also believes that veterans should not be and skills they developed in the service. "Show active duty.

what you learned in the military," he said. "Show your leadership. Show your confidence" military helped launch his franchise, Faulkner in your abilities. Show that you have what it takes to be a successful business owner. We will be there to support you."

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ KYLE FAULKNER

the Marine Corps, learned about Archadeck from a personal contact while serving as a platoon sergeant for an engineer and maintenance company. He and his wife Paige chose to purchase an existing Archadeck territory shy about demonstrating all of the qualities in Hillsborough, North Carolina, after leaving

When asked how the skills he learned in the like in the military, the structure and foundation said, "Communication skills are extremely helpful, as well as broad application of administration and logistics. Military members are ofeffectively communicate among one another in order to accomplish an assigned goal is essenother members of the Archadeck system."

Faulkner credits a lot of his success to the support he has received as a franchisee. "Much

have already been established in this franchise," he said. "By simply following the business outline - which is provided - and maintaining those aforementioned traits, any veteran should ten required to act as liaisons between multinabecome successful in this system. Also, the tional hosts, different occupational specialists, support that the head office in Richmond pro-Roger "Kyle" Faulkner, a former sergeant in and separate military branches. Being able to vides is truly second to none. Having a host of members who are not only willing, but excited to help new franchisees overcome challenges tial. These same skills translate when speaking and find answers to questions is invaluable. with different potential clients, suppliers, or Since day one, I have always felt confident that there is a team of individuals behind me who are genuinely interested in my success."

> He recommends that veterans don't hold back. "Go for it," Faulkner said. "It is a great opportunity, and remember that Archadeck offers a VetFran incentive.'

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ TUCKER REU

Tucker Reu, an active Marine Corps Reservist entering his sixth year of service, is a great example of how the franchise opportunities at Outdoor Living Brands are a great way to build a business while still serving the military. Tucker joined the Archadeck franchise with his father, Marshall, and grandfather Mike (retired Navy), establishing their business in the central South Carolina city of Camden.

Reu believes the Outdoor Living Brands system is a good place for veterans because "the OLB system is set up in a way that allows franchisees as much independence as they want while at the same time giving them a support system such as the OLB staff and resources provided to us – in order to succeed. I feel that many people who can take the skills they learned in the military and transfer it over to being self-employed would greatly appreciate this."

He recommends that veterans and reservists considering exploring franchising with Outdoor Living Brands "I would advise them to take advantage of the resources that OLB provides for them, and to communicate with their peers and other franchisees in order to see what works best for their business," Reu said.

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ SCOTT KOETJE

Scott Koetje, a new Renew Crew franchisee in Corinth, Mississippi, saw the franchise as a perfect way to start his civilian life, having served in the Navy for eight years as an avionics technician. Franchising with Renew Crew enabled Koetje to utilize his Navy experience, his dedication, and his loyalty.

"I have the ability to remain calm and clearheaded in time of confusion and high-level pressure situations," he said. "The characteristics I developed in the Navy - attention to details, work ethic and loyalty to a cause – are what made me a great fit for the Renew Crew Franchise. I did not have a sense of urgency or pride in my work until I was put into military

Koetje advises transitioning veterans to "use the time you served as a selling point to all franchisors. They are looking for franchisees that have had a chance to work in a team environment like the service."

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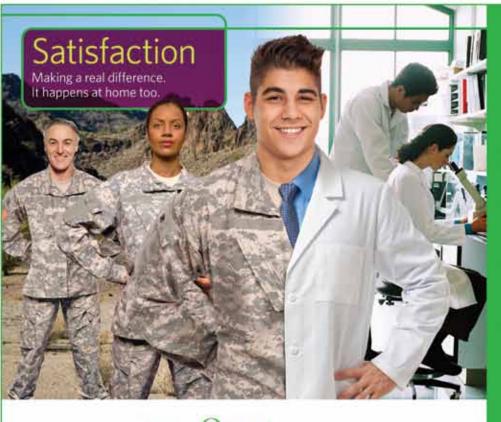
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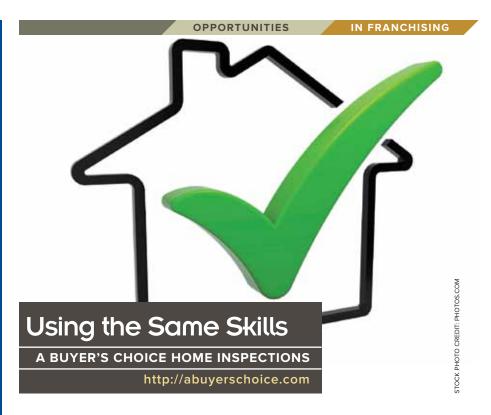


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14 | SEARCH & EMPLOY® MARCH+APRIL 2014





BUYER'S CHOICE HOME INSPECTIONS (ABCHI) is a franchise business meeting the huge demand for home inspections. The company is rapidly expanding throughout the United States, Canada, and worldwide. Currently, there are more than 130 franchises across Canada, 30-plus in the United States, and dozens more internationally.

facility are in Pompano Beach, Florida.

military veterans to become franchisees. instilled in me an ability to communicate effranchise fee, and is dedicated to creating with prospective clients.' more entrepreneurial job opportunities for of its franchise base in the United States.

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ JARED GORDLEY

ley spent eight years serving his country. He was deployed once to Iraq and once to a classified location. He started in the Air Force as a power generation technician in volved in the Florida Air National Guard.

After years of service, Gordley began considering which career path was meant for him. "It was my wife who pointed out that most of my military time was spent using the same skills involved in home inspections," Gordley said. "I always wanted to own my own business, so I started researching and doing my due diligence."

During his first deployment, he worked in

ABCHI offers franchise investors a turnkey an engineering unit in which he was able to operation. The company estimates that, by do electrical work along with HVAC (heating, following the ABCHI business model, a franchiventilation, and air conditioning) maintesee can earn a healthy living working less than nance and plumbing. "Fortunately, I learned a eight hours a day. The franchise investment includes training, marketing tools, and ongoing home inspector," Gordley added. "Aside from support from the home office. The company's all the practical hands-on experience, my role main headquarters and professional training as a supervisor in the military provided me with leadership skills. The military awarded ABCHI regional developers actively recruit — me a great deal of organizational strength and It offers veterans special discounts on the fectively, which helps me now when meeting

Gordley added that A Buyer's Choice ofmen and women who have served. Military fered him information, training, and resourcveterans already make up about 10 percent es he "simply could not have duplicated" on his own. "It's a franchise, so there's a proven method and support when you need it,' he said. The franchise offers a military dis-Former Air Force Staff Sergeant Jared Gord-count, but that was not the deciding factor, according to Gordley. He based his decision on the support.

Gordley's advice to anyone who is in the military: Know what you plan to get into 2007 and continued to be responsible for once you leave active duty. Even just a basic various electrical systems, primarily genidea of what you would want as a civilian erators, throughout his military career. Curcareer can help you get the experience you rently, he owns an A Buyer's Choice Home need to be successful. "It can be very chal-Inspections franchise in his hometown of lenging for you and your family financially if Jacksonville, Florida. He is also actively in- you just sort of hope to gain experience on the job post-military," he said.



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WHEN IS THE RIGHT TIME TO BUY A FRANCHISE?

YOUR STRENGTHS

Market Forces



THIS ARTICLE IS NOT ABOUT "the glass is halffull" or being irrationally exuberant about today's economic snapshot in time. It is about laying out all the data points and facts and rationally concluding that now is a fine time to launch a business. Or, at a minimum, now is as good a time as any. Because no matter when you are looking to path is to go beyond doing simplistic pluses and get in, there will always be plenty of reasons not minuses on the flipchart and to proceed to the to take the proverbial plunae.

Fact is, there always has been - and unfortunately, always will be - geopolitical tension, not take risks. This is not new at all.

Historically, some of the greatest business launches came at a time when a launch might to the pessimistic pundits express their views on are grabbing those customers and accounts have seemed counterintuitive to the academics and the uninitiated. If we rewind the clocks back to 1954 – a recessionary cycle that coincided with the end of Korean War – a young salesman named Ray Kroc began negotiating with the McDonald's on one could possibly convince me that now is we are out of the woods and in the midst of a brothers to be their franchise agent. To many, Ray seemed "off his (K)rocker" – or a couple Big Macs short of a picnic, as it were – to be taking risks in such an uncertain time. Well, how wrong they way – I learned that lesson back in 11th grade were! I really give Ray Kroc a ton of credit, be- economics class. cause the reasons not to do it likely outnumbered

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the reasons to move forward 10 to 1.

You don't even have to be a cerebral academic to poke holes in perfectly good business models. perfectly viable opportunities because they allow commitment periods and easy out clauses. the potential for risk to sabotage them.

erwise, you are left with models that have low ceilings with limited growth opportunities.

My advice to veterans pursuing this career attack: Play to win, versus playing not to lose – a good military strategy as well! I am not saying you should eat a consistent diet of risk for breakeconomic ups and downs, and other reasons to fast, but I am saying that you should not let risk nies are slashing marketing budgets and taking curb your appetite.

> the situation around the world and here at home. Problem is, they fail to give the positive factors

a perfect time to launch a business. There has never been, nor will there ever be a perfect time. Besides, timing the market is a sucker bet anythird quarter of 2013.

So what are the favorable forces that are shaping up this time to be as good as any? I could list many, but I will focus on three:

MONEY IS CHEAP, AND THE FAUCET HAS BEEN TURNED BACK ON

The bankers are back, and loans are getting approved again. After a moratorium of sorts, the lending community is no longer scared of its own shadow. I think everyone realizes that the overcorrection did not solve any problems, and only served to exacerbate them. With a federal funds rate of 0.25% (the interest rate at which depository institutions actively trade balances held at were weighted low in my overall decision-making the Federal Reserve), lenders are highly incentivized by the government to close loans. The cost ics, if I had relied solely on the indices and foreof borrowing is crazy low right now.

Credit unions too, have ratcheted up their com- I would still be working for someone who did. mercial lending portfolios. New legislation is also
An old saying goes, "If you lined up all the paving the way for them to be able to increase economists end to end, you still couldn't reach their loan base up to 25% of their assets.

Other emerging players such as BoeFly – the sion is that today's climate is as good as any for eHarmony of the lending world; www.boefly.com launching your dream. So say no to the naysay-- are making the loan process more seamless ers and play to win. If you take this approach, you and predictable. Also, don't forget crowdfund- will like the final score much, much better. • ing. And finally, the Patriot Express loan, available via the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), is a solid option; visit http://www.sba.gov/ eAuth.com, The Entrepreneur Authority (TEA) category/type-loan/patriot-express.

2 UNPRECEDENTED BARGAINS FOR TENANTS

We may never again in our lifetimes see today's tenant-friendly conditions in the commercial real on the subject of franchising on talk shows, at estate market. Terms and conditions are skewed industry conferences, and on college campuses. to the tenant as never before. Dollars per square He has been both a franchise licensor and a foot and other costs such as common area maintenance (CAM) are down across the country and 246-2884 or domholt@eAuth.com

across the board - retail, professional office. Frankly, it is just not hard to kill a good idea. industrial, etc. And prime A locations that would be unavailable in a normal market are available today. We also see flexible lease terms being Every day, good and bright people miss out on agreed to as never before - including shorter

Even better, landlords are providing more tenant To enjoy any upside potential, there almost improvement (TI) allowances, and are throwing in necessarily has to be risk in the equation. Othto get a return phone call from some commercial real estate brokers. Now, they are showing conciliatory spirit. Translation: buyer's market.

MARKET SHARE UP FOR GRABS - WHO WANTE TO

Probably the most strategic of reasons is that market share is up for grabs. While some compacustomer/client relationships for granted, new Yes, I too read the negative headlines and listen market entrants with a play-to-win approach and gobbling up market share. The defensive posture some companies have been taking are soon going to cost them dearly.

Of course, not all of the stars are aligned; and Many other macroeconomic signals show that recovery – for example

- → The U.S. economy grew by 3.2 percent in the
- → The jobless rate has fallen to less than 7 percent, the lowest in many years.
- → Business profits are up.

→ Consumer debt levels are decreasing.

But no matter what the charts and graphs say, my point remains that there will never be a perfect time to start a business. And even when the signals are not so favorable, starting a business can be very rewarding.

I am living proof of that.

I started my business not long after 9/11, and people thought I had lost my marbles. They all had plenty of reasons why I should not have done what I did - and some of them were actually valid. But thankfully their dissenting opinions equation. As someone with a degree in economcasts. I would likely not have followed my dream.

a conclusion." For me, the only rational conclu-

David E. Omholt is chief executive officer of a RecruitMilitary strategic partner. His company offers a free service to veterans looking to learn more about the franchise buying process and options in the market. Omholt is a Certified Franchise Executive (CFE) and a frequent speaker



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RESEARCH GUIDE

YOUR RESEARCH GUIDE TO FRANCHISE OWNERSHIP

by rick Jones



RECRUITMILITARY encourages men and women who are interested in franchise ownership to use this guide to learn about how franchising works and the opportunities available. You can access each URL below via our *Search & Employ*® online PDF, which is an exact duplicate of the print magazine and contains live links. Go to http://recruitmilitary.com/search-and-employ.

The website of the International Franchise Association (IFA; www. franchise.org) has a page, "About Franchising – Help with Buying a Franchise," at http://www.franchise.org/aboutfranchising.aspx. The page contains links to 18 articles under the headings:

- An Introduction to Franchising
- Beginning Your Search
- Navigating the Paper Trail
- Evaluating a Franchise Navigating Both Sides

Also on the page are Additional Resources links:

- Blog Resources for Franchise Ownership
- Consumer Guide to Buying a Franchise
- Self-Evaluation: Is Franchising for You?
- Using a Professional Consultant to Help you Find the Right Franchise
- How to Finance Your Franchise
- Funding Tools and Solutions
- Key Legal Questions to Ask
- Frequently Asked Questions About Franchising
- Franchise Your Business
- Discover the Economic Impact of Franchised Businesses
- Prospective Franchisee Workbook Making the Franchise Decision

The IFA offers a free course in franchising basics at: http://www.ifa-university.com/home/.

The IFA also publishes *Franchising World* magazine. Links to digital versions of the present issue and past issues are at: http://www.franchise.org/IndustrySecondary.aspx?id=45252.

The home page of the VetFran initiative (www.vetfran.com/) of the IFA contains articles about VetFran and the IFA as well as such subjects as individual franchisors' programs and awards given to franchisees. The VetFran Directory (http://www.franchise.org/Veteran-Franchise.aspx) contains profiles of the participating franchisors.

Franchise Times magazine (http://www.franchisetimes.com/) is published by Franchise Times Corporation, which is located in Minneapolis. News sections of the website include International Franchise News, Franchise Finance News, and Restaurant Finance Monitor.

Entrepreneur magazine (http://www.entrepreneur.com), published by Entrepreneur Media, Inc., Irvine, California, has produced a list called the Entrepreneur 2014 Franchise 500® (www.entrepreneur.com/franchise500/index.html). Entrepreneur's "Ask Entrepreneur" Q&A section on franchising begins at: http://www.entrepreneur.com/ask/category/250. The section has answers to more than 150 questions.

Articles about franchising appeared recently in *Forbes* (http://www.forbes.com/sites/kevinhar-rington/2013/10/31/the-biggest-trends-in-franchising/), and *Bloomberg Businessweek* (http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-07-22/before-you-buy-a-franchise-business#p1).

The United States Small Business Administration (SBA; www.sba.gov) has a wealth of information on starting and managing businesses. The SBA has posted articles on franchising at:

- → http://www.sba.gov/content/franchise-businesses
- ightarrow http://www.sba.gov/content/build-your-own-franchise
- → http://www.sba.gov/content/franchise-registry-approved-brands

The SBA also has a franchise community discussion board.

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has posted *Buying a Franchise: A Consumer Guide*, at http://business.ftc.gov/documents/invO5-buying-franchise-consumer-guide. The Guide has six parts: The Benefits and Responsibilities of Franchise Ownership, Advance Work: Before You Select a Franchise System, Selecting a Franchise, Finding the Right Opportunity, Investigating Before You Invest, and Before You Sign the Franchise Agreement.

Rick Jones is vice president of sales at RecruitMilitary and a former master gunnery sergeant in the United States Marine Corps.

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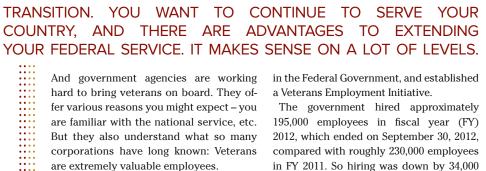
WANTS YOU

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AFTER SERVING IN THE MILITARY WOULD BE A NATURAL





It is no secret that there are calls from all over the United States for the federal govnities were to decrease, veterans would still 24 percent in the baseline year of FY 2009. be in good shape, because federal agencies with the federal government. To learn more employees were veterans. about that, visit www.fedshirevets.gov.

The government hired approximately in FY 2011. So hiring was down by 34,000

But of the 195,000 FY 2012 hires, 56,000, or ernment to spend less. But even if the over- 28.9 percent, were veterans. This compares all number of federal employment opportu- favorably with 28.3 percent in FY 2011 and 12 months of training assistance to unem-

While veterans have enjoyed different THE GOAL of the President's Veterans Emproved program of education offered by a forms of federal hiring preference since the ployment Initiative is to help federal agen-Civil War, the situation is even better now. cies identify qualified veterans, clarify the program must lead to an associate's degree, Thousands of veterans have been hired hiring process for veterans seeking employ- a non-college degree, or a certificate; and it by federal agencies since November 2009, ment with the federal government, and help must train the veteran for a high-demand when President Barack Obama signed Execton them adjust to the civilian work environment occupation. Find out more at http://benutive Order 13518, Employment of Veterans once they are hired. The establishment of efits.va.gov/VOW/education.asp. •

Veteran Employment Program Offices in 24 federal agencies has helped veterans identify employment opportunities within the respective federal agencies, provided feedback to veterans about their employment application status, and helped veterans recently employed by these agencies adjust to civilian life and a workplace culture often different from military culture.

In addition, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has issued a strategy for boosting the employment of veterans within the federal government. The strategy emphasizes training, coordination, marketing, and the inclusion of military spouses in hiring initiatives. Part of the OPM's strategy is to make sure other agencies know that following veterans' preference - which gives servicemembers an advantage over other candidates in the hiring process – is critical in meeting a government obligation to veterans.

OTHER INITIATIVES

- The Veterans Employment Opportunities Act (VEOA) ensures that veterans are able to compete for government positions that previously may have been available to only existing civil service employees.
- The Veterans Recruitment Appointment (VRA) and 30 Percent or More Disabled Veterans programs allow eligible veterans to fill certain positions without competition.
- The Disabled Veterans Enrolled in VA Training Program allows eligible disabled veterans to receive training or work experience at the Department of Veterans Affairs

To learn more about the above four initiatives, visit www.fedshirevets.gov/hire/hm/ shav/index.aspx

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) is an employment-oriented program that helps veterans with serviceconnected disabilities. The program helps those veterans prepare for, find, and keep suitable employment. Suitable employment is work that is within the veterans' physical, mental, and emotional capabilities, and which matches their patterns of skills, abilities, and interests. For more information on this program, visit the Veterans Benefits Administration website at www.vba.va.gov/ bln/vre/

 Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) This program offers up to ployed veterans. At press time, Congress In FY 2012, the number of veterans on was set to vote on extending this program have been directed to hire as many veter- board was 612,000, or 29.7 percent, of for two years. There are some limitations ans as they can. Veterans have a decided the 2,058,000 total employees. In FY 2009, - applicants have to be between 35 and 60 advantage when it comes to getting a job 512,000, or 25.8 percent, of the 1,983,000 years old, be employed, must have received an other-than-dishonorable discharge, etc. Participants must be enrolled in a VA-apcommunity college or technical school. The

GOVERNMENT AGENCY DIRECTORY

RecruitMilitary products and services. We encourage men and women with military backgrounds who are interested in careers in government to investigate their opportunities.

- The URL's in the "Military" listings include links to both military careers pages and civilian careers pages. Veterans who are interested in resuming their military careers can usually navigate from a civilian to a military page by first clicking to the home page of the military unit.
- Directories in previous issues of Search & Employ® list other agencies of government. In our November/ December 2013 issue is a directory of government law-enforcement agencies and private security firms. In our September/October 2013 issue is a healthcare directory that includes listings of various government agencies'
- Readers do not have to type the URL's listed below in their address bars. A PDF of this issue with live links is at http://recruitmiitary.com/search-and-employ

→ FEDERAL

Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) www.cia.gov/careers/opportunities/cia-jobs/index.html Defense Intelligence Agency www.diaiobs.dia.mil/ Federal Aviation Administration www.faa.gov/iobs/ www.jobs.irs.gov/home.html?portlet=114 Internal Revenue Service National Security Agency www.nsa.gov/careers/index.shtml Transportation Security Adm www.tsajobs.tsa.dhs.gov U.S. Coast Guard www.uscg.mil/ U.S. Customs and Border Protection www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/careers/ U.S. Department of Homeland Security www.dhs.gov/careers U.S. Department of State www.state.gov/careers/ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs www.va.gov/jobs/ VA for Vets www.VAforVets.com

Argonne National Laboratory	www.anl.gov/careers/apply-job/external-applicants
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services	www.cms.gov
Food and Drug Administration	www.fda.gov/AboutFDA/WorkingatFDA/default.htm
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory	www.jobs.lbl.gov/
Marshall Space Flight Center	www.nasa.gov/centers/marshall/home
NASA Johnson Space Center	www.nasajobs.nasa.gov/
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency	https://www1.nga.mil:443/Careers/Pages/default.aspx
National Nuclear Security Administration	www.nnsa.energy.gov/federalemployment/workingatnnsa
Peace Corps	www.peacecorps.gov/jobs
U.S. Census Bureau	www.census.gov/hrd/www/
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services	www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis
U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Finance Center	https://www.nfc.usda.gov/
U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency	www.fsa.usda.gov
U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management	www.blm.gov/wo/st/en.html
U.S. Department of the Interior,	
Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement	www.bsee.gov/careers
U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey	www.usgs.gov/ohr/
U.S. Department of Justice	www.justice.gov/careers/careers.html?
U.S. Department of Transportation	www.dot.gov/careers
II C Donartment of Veterans Affairs	

Office of Acquisition and Logistics www.va.gov/oalc/career.asp U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency www.justice.gov/dea/careers U.S. Environmental Protection Agency www.epa.gov/jobs/ U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission www.nrc.gov/about-nrc/emplo U.S. Office of Personnel Management www.opm.gov/about-us/careers-at-opm/ U.S. Patent and Trademark Office http://careers.uspto.gov/ http://about.usps.com/careers/welcome.htm U.S. Postal Service U.S. Securities and Exc www.sec.gov/jobs.shtml

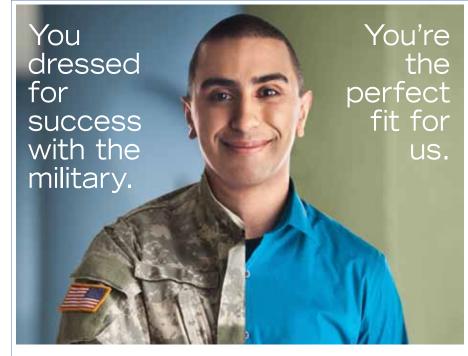
\rightarrow STATE

Arizona Department of Public Safety	www.azdps.gov/Careers/
California Franchise Tax Board	https://www.ftb.ca.gov/human_resources/index.shtml?WT.mc_id=AboutUs_Careers
Calpers	www.calpers.ca.gov/index.jsp?bc=/about/career/home.xml
Indiana State Government	www.in.gov/spd/careers/
Maryland Department of Budget and Management	www.dbm.maryland.gov/jobseekers/Pages/jobseekersHome.aspx
Maryland Department of Transportation	www.mdot.maryland.gov/employment/index.html
Massachusetts Port Authority	http://agency.governmentjobs.com/massport/default.cfm
Oklahoma Office of Personnel Management	www.ok.gov/opm/State_Jobs/index.html
Oregon Department of Transportation	www.oregon.gov/DAS/STJOBS/Pages/index.aspx

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Baltimore City Fire Academy	www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/AgenciesDepartments/Fire/Recruitment.aspx
Boston Fire Department	www.cityofboston.gov/fire/employment
Central Ohio Transit Authority	www.cota.com/Jobs-Careers.aspx
City of Austin	www.austintexas.gov/service/search-city-jobs-online
City of Chicago	www.cityofchicago.org
City of Costa Mesa, California	www.costamesaca.gov/index.aspx?page=1189
City of Davenport, Iowa	www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/department/index.php?fDD=19-0
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MILITARY

Air Force Recruiting Air Force Reserve Air National Guard JIEDDO	www.airforce.com/careers www.afreserve.com/?:Jobs www.goang.com/Careers https://www.jieddo.mil/jobs.aspx
Alabama Army National Guard	www.al.ngb.army.mil/Careers/default.aspx
Arizona Army National Guard	www.azguard.gov
California Army National Guard	www.calguard.ca.gov/army/Pages/default.aspx
Colorado Army National Guard	http://co.ng.mil/Pages/Default.aspx
Dallas Recruiting Battalion	www.usarec.army.mil/5thbde/4cbn/
Department of the Army	www.armycivilianservice.com/content/careers
District of Columbia Army National Guard	http://states.ng.mil/sites/dc/Pages/DCNationalGuard.aspx
Florida Army National Guard	www.floridaguard.army.mil/careers
Fuel Department, Fleet Logistics Center Puget Sound	www.navsup.navy.mil/navsup
Georgia Army National Guard	www.gahro.com/ga_vacancies_tabbed.htm
Indiana Army National Guard	www.in.ng.mil/hr/
Kentucky Army National Guard	www.dma.ky.gov/ng/
Louisiana Army National Guard	www.jobs.geauxguard.com/
Maryland Army National Guard	www.md.ngb.army.mil/XHTML/Home/Jobs/AGRJobs.html
Massachusetts Army National Guard	http://states.ng.mil/sites/ma/Pages/Default.aspx
Missouri Army National Guard	www.moguard.com/careers.html
Naval Undersea Warfare Center	www.navsea.navy.mil/nuwc/content/Employment.aspx
Navy Recruiting District Philadelphia	www.cnrc.navy.mil/philadelphia/
Nevada Army National Guard	www.nv.ngb.army.mil/hro.cfm
New York Army National Guard	www.armynationalguardnewyork.com/
North Carolina Army National Guard	www.nc.ngb.army.mil/Pages/default.aspx
Ohio Army National Guard	www.ong.ohio.gov/human_resources/ong_job_postings.html
Oklahoma Army National Guard	www.ok.ngb.army.mil/
Oregon Army National Guard	www.oregonarmyguard.com/service/index.html
Pennsylvania Army National Guard	www.paguard.com/Careers/Careers.html
Rhode Island Army National Guard	http://states.ng.mil/sites/ri/Pages/Default.aspx
Tennessee Army National Guard	www.tnmilitary.org/Careers.html
Texas Army National Guard	www.txarng.com/
U.S. Air Force Electronic Systems Center	www.afesccareers.com/careers
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District	www.swf.usace.army.mil/
U.S. Army Natick Soldier RD&E Center	http://nsrdec.natick.army.mil/
U.S. Army National Guard	www.nationalguard.com/
U.S. Army Recruiting Command	www.goarmy.com/careers-and-jobs.html
U.S. Marine Corps Officer Recruitment	www.marines.com/officer
Virginia Army National Guard	http://vko.va.ngb.army.mil/
Washington Army National Guard	http://washingtonarmyguard.org/
West Virginia Army National Guard	www.wv.ngb.army.mil/
West virginia Army National Guard	

RESEARCH GUIDE

YOUR RESEARCH GUIDE TO

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

by Jasen Williams



RECRUITMILITARY ENCOURAGES JOB SEEKERS to use this guide to learn about employment opportunities in government. You can access each URL below through our **Search & Employ**® online PDF, which is a duplicate of our print magazine and contains live links: http://recruitmilitary.com/search-and-employ.

www.usajobs.gov/Veterans is a portal to all federal job openings specifically for veterans. www.fedshirevets.gov/job/filled/index.aspx explains how federal jobs are filled.

FedsHireVets.gov is a website of the United States Office of Personnel Management (OPM) designed to help reterans understand the federal hiring process. The site explains different veteran statuses and their meanings, and how to translate military experiences into civilian skill sets. The site also provides links to resources to help get veterans hired into federal positions.

www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov/ is a comprehensive resource for transitioning from the military to the civil service. VETERAN HIRING BENEFITS AND ACCOMMODATIONS

leterans have specific statuses and rights as candidates for employment within the federal government.

- Veterans' Preferences www.fedshirevets.gov/job/vetpref/index.aspx
- Special Hiring Authority for Veterans www.fedshirevets.gov/job/shav/index.aspx
- → Veterans Employment Opportunities Act (VEOA) www.fedshirevets.gov/iob/shav/index.aspx#veoa → Reasonable Accommodations www.opm.gov/Disability/ReasonableAccommodation.asp
- → Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/main.htm
- → FAQ about qualifying for different statuses www.opm.qov/fags/topic/veterans/index.aspx

TRANSLATING AND PROMOTING YOUR SKILLS

Presenting your military accomplishments and skill sets in a cover letter and resume to a federal agency or any civilian employer can be a formidable task. RecruitMilitary offers affordable and comprehensive resume writing services: https://recruitmilitary.com/resume-writing.

- Additional resources for your job search and application process within the federal government:
- → Resume tools https://www.vetsuccess.va.gov/public/resume_tools.html
- -> Tools to help veterans match military experience and skills to civilian occupations www.onetonline.org/crosswalk/ and www.careerinfonet.org/ moc/default.aspx?nodeid=213

SITES FOR STATE GOVERNMENT JOBS

http://personnel.alabama.gov/ Alabama http://jobs.alaska.gov/statejobs.html Alaska

Arizona https://secure.azstatejobs.gov/pljb/azgovjobs/mainjb/applicant/index.jsp

Arkansas https://www.ark.org/arstatejobs/index.php

California http://jobs.ca.gov/

Colorado https://www.colorado.gov/dhr/jobs http://das.ct.gov/cr1.aspx?page=13 Connecticu Delaware www.delawarestatejobs.com/ https://jobs.myflorida.com/index.html Florida https://www.careers.ga.gov/ Georgia http://dhrd.hawaii.gov/job-seekers/ Hawaii

ldaho http://dhr.idaho.gov/ http://work.illinois.gov/ Illinois Indiana www.in.gov/spd/2333.htm lowa http://das.hre.iowa.gov/state_jobs.htm

Kansas www.da.ks.gov/ps/pub/ Kentucky http://personnel.ky.gov/employment/

www.civilservice.louisiana.gov/ Louisiana www.maine.gov/bhr/state_jobs/index.htm

http://jobaps.com/MD/ Maryland Massachusetts www.mass.gov/portal/jobs-education/find-job/

www.michigan.gov/mdcs/0,1607,7-147-6876---,00.html Michigan

Minnesota www.careers.state.mn.us/ /www.mspb.ms.gov

Mississippi Missouri www.mo.gov/work/job-seekers/state-job-openings/

http://mt.gov/statejobs/default.mcpx Montana Nebraska http://statejobs.nebraska.gov/

Nevada https://nvapps.state.nv.us/NEATS/Recruiting/ViewJobsHome.aep

New Hampshire http://admin.state.nh.us/hr/employment.html www.state.nj.us/csc/seekers/jobs/announcements/ New Jersey

www.spo.state.nm.us/ New Mexico New York www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker www.osp.state.nc.us/jobs/ North Carolina North Dakota www.nd.gov/hrms/jobs/announcements.asp

http://careers.ohio.gov/

www.ok.gov/opm/State_Jobs/index.html 0klahoma www.oregon.gov/jobs/Pages/index.aspx Oregon

www.employment.pa.gov/portal/server.pt/community/home/4635 Pennsylvania

Rhode Island www.dlt.ri.gov/jobsri/statejobs.htm www.ohr.sc.gov/OHR/OHR-jobs-portal-index.phtm South Carolina

South Dakota http://bhr.sd.gov/

www.tn.gov/topics/State+Jobs Tennessee

www.texasworkforce.org/customers/jsemp/job-search.html Texas https://statejobs.utah.gov/

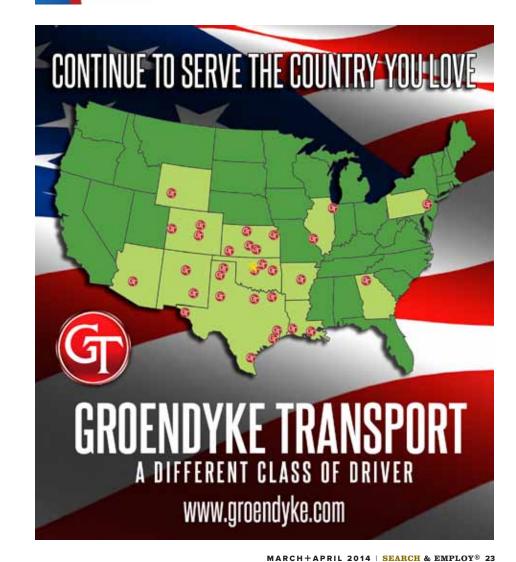
Vermont http://humanresources.vermont.gov/ http://jobs.virginia.gov/ Virginia

http://careers.wa.gov/ Washingtor www.personnel.wv.gov/job_seekers/Pages/default.aspx West Virginia https://wisc.iobs/public/index.asp Wisconsin

http://agency.governmentjobs.com/wyoming/default.cfm Wyoming

Jasen Williams is vice president of agency relations at RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. WWW.RECRUITMILITARY.COM





TOM KASBOHM STARTED HIS CAREER

WITH SNAP-ON AS A CREDIT MANAGER IN 1991.

BUT HE ALWAYS HAD THE DREAM

OF OWNING HIS OWN BUSINESS, AND SO IN 1992

HE PURCHASED A SNAP-ON TOOLS FRANCHISE.

FOUR YEARS LATER, HE MOVED ON FROM THERE.

"I enjoyed being the owner, but my passion has always been building and developing teams," he said. "In 1996, I accepted a Snap-on Tools field management position. My franchise experience and passion for developing teams were rewarded with larger team responsibilities throughout my 23 years with Snap-on. Currently, I am the Snap-on Tools director of franchise systems. I am responsible for strengthening and growing the Snap-on Tools franchise system in the United States."

Though Kasbohm did not serve in the military, his father was an Air Force captain, and Kasbohm was

ing directly to the customers. Snap-on Tools is rated the No. 1 mobile tool distribution franchise in many rankings. I am most proud of being the only franchise in the tools industry to be recognized for the last seven years with a Franchise Satisfaction Award from the market-research company Franchise Business Review."

Those awards are just part of the company's success. "Snap-on Incorporated, the parent of Snap-on Tools, has grown to a \$3.1 billion, S&P 500 Company," Kasbohm said. "Snap-on Tools has a product line of more than 22,000 items. Snap-on Incorporated has more than 11,000 employees worldwide, and

its positions span many disciplines."

Kenosha, Wisconsin, has a fran-

chise network of more than 4,200

franchises. Snap-on Incorporated's

tool-storage equipment, diagnostic

ment systems, and under-car shop

implements such as hydraulic lifts

and tire changers. Snap-on serves

technicians in the auto, marine, and

ment and industrial organizations.

aviation industries, as well as vehicle

Kasbohm is interested in finding mo-

tivated people who want to become

franchisees. "Specific to my role as

director of franchise systems, in the

United States market alone we have

over 3,400 franchise and company

non-food franchisors, and is looking

for people as good as our tools who

want to be in business with the best

In addition, although we do not recruit

or hire for our franchise owners, many

are looking for sales assistants to help

Kasbohm is quick to point out that

veterans usually have the skill sets

sees. "We have over 600 veteran-

and motivation to make good franchi-

grow their businesses."

Tools is one of the world's largest

stores in operation," he said, "Snap-on

equipment, information and manage

product lines include hand tools and

Snap-on Tools, headquartered in



Building and Developing Teams

born at Chanute Air Force Base in Rantoul, Illinois. "I am proud of the United States military," he said, "and I realize that companies founded in America such as Snap-on Tools are able to grow because of the freedom protected by those who serve."

Kasbohm's employer also has a history of connections with the U.S. military, "Snap-on is a brand with a legacy of innovation and success," he said. "We were founded in 1920 on the idea of interchangeable socket wrenches. Our legacy has guided us in providing valuable productivity solutions wherever the job is critical. For example, in 1965 the U.S. Navy was experiencing problems removing from jet aircraft small fasteners that often seized after being exposed to high temperatures. We invented the solution with our 'Flank Drive' wrenching system, which allows contact on the flats of the nut as opposed to the corners – allowing for increased torque

Part of Snap-on Tools' legacy of success comes from how it helps its franchisees take care of their custom ers. "In addition to product innovation, Snap-on pioneered the mobile tool distribution channel," said Kasbohm. "Our franchisees bring personal service, innovative solutions, and financoperated Snap-on Tools franchises in it is a good fit "Franchise the United States," he said. "Veterans have proven to be a good fit for franchise ownership.'

"Veterans tend to be self-disciplined, exhibit personal leadership, are goaloriented, and hold themselves accountable to their fellow team members," he said. "They are accustomed to taking full advantage of training to hone their skills to better achieve their goals. Veterans inherently understand that it is beneficial to the team for everyone to know and follow the rules. In addition, veterans are proud of their service and illustrate their pride and professionalism through appearance and communication."

Another reason Kasbohm believes that veterans succeed as franchisees is that they are good at working with people. "This is a relationship business," he said. "People who were successful in the military likely earned that success through working with other people. They couldn't do it alone. Veterans as a whole tend to have that basic ability to connect with other people. They show trust and competence, and people relate to that."

headfirst into a franchise, Kasbohm said that he or she needs to make sure ownership is not a good fit for every veteran," he said. "Like any other segment of the population, not all veterans want the responsibility of business ownership. However, for the veteran that desires to own their business and be in business with the brand that is preferred among automotive techni-

Snap-on offers veterans an advantage. "Snap-on recognizes that many veterans have the self-discipline, necessary to own a Snap-on Tools franchise," Kasbohm said. "For those veterans that meet our criteria to represent the Snap-on brand and are honorably discharged, we currently offer a discount of \$20,000 off the franchisee's initial startup inventory.

cians, then we are a good fit."

He said that veterans are definitely valued outside the military, and he encourages them to explore all of their opportunities. "First, realize that your service is appreciated and your skills are desired in the civilian world, he said. "You should take the time to and family situation. If through your personal assessment you determine goals is through business ownership,

then I encourage you to consider a

Snap-on Tools franchise, Don't just ease into a career – own it!" Kasbohm's discovery process for a

prospective franchisee includes:

 a confidential questionnaire to help determine whether the goals of the prospective franchisee match

 a chance to experience a day in the life of someone who is already a franchisee

an interview with a regional

"We consider this to be a two-way street," said Kasbohm. "We want this to be a long, successful relationship. We want to set up our franchisees fo success so they can best serve their customers."

After a franchisee is brought on board, the next step is initial training in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. This trainthing he or she needs to know about the franchise. Then the franchisee returns to the franchise area and mobile store. A franchise-performance team member spends three weeks with the new franchisee to make sure he or she is ready to go. Snap-on offers additional training to all franchisees, even those who have been around a long time. "We consider that kind of like spring training," Kasbohm said.

Right Hands

JOHN WINKLER spends much of his working days surrounded by the tools in his truck, but he says the people he serves as a Snap-on Tools franchisee make him the happiest. "I love finding a solution for my customers," said the former Army specialist who spent three years in the service. "I love meeting new people and getting to know them well enough that eventually we're cracking jokes. I get excited to put the right tools in the right hands."

But Winkler's career did not start in the tool business. He entered the military right after high school, trained in telecommunications, and was stationed at the Pentagon. But eventually it became clear that his opportunities for promotion in his rate were going to be hard to come by So he decided to see what the civilian world held for him. After leaving the Army in 1989, he worked for various companies in the telecom munications and project management fields. But his last position was outsourced, and he had to look at other opportunities.

"I felt like a career change" he said. "A lot of my friends were in the construction industry, and they told me about these guys who came by with tools. They said those guys were always helpful and happy. I started to do a little research, and that led me to Snap-on."

Now he owns a Snap-on Tools franchise in the south side of Chicago, covering five towns in the area. He has been at it for just over 18 months, but he is already finding a lot of success.

"I deliver the best tools and excellent customer service to the customers on my route - right to their door," Winkler said. "I also recently won an award for being one of the top franchisees on our local franchise team."

While he should enjoy the credit for his success. Winkler knows that his time in the military is a big part of it. "I believe veterans make good franchisees due to the rigorous training and standards the armed forces expected from them." he said. "I find most veterans will go that extra mile to get things done. If they hit a roadblock, they look at it as a challenge."

The best news for veterans is

that because they are well prepared for success, most of them will adapt well to what Snap-on Tools has to offer its franchisees. "In the armed services, you are trained to work in a way that has been tested and proven over the years; the same goes with Snap-on," Winkler said. "Snap-on provides you with the training and the experience of many decades of a proven business plan. Plus, the incentive of the extra \$20,000 of free inventory to reduce your start up costs makes it a huge bonus and that much easier to build your As with all franchises, there is

an initial cost to the person who wants to become a franchisee. The \$20,000 discount is something that Snap-on offers veterans. It goes to the veteran franchisee's initial tool inventory purchase. Snap-on is also a member of the International Franchise Association's Veterans Transition Initiative (VetFran), along with more than 600 other franchise companies. All VetFran members provide discounts to veteran franchise owners. The company has recognized that many veterans are a great fit for the Snap-on franchise system, and so the company has made it a point to try to attract as many of them as possible.

"That \$20,000 was a huge help, Winkler said. "It really got me started and showed that Snap-on thought I was worth investing in." Once the franchise got off the ground. Winkler said several things

led to his success. "Being personable and following through on doing what you said you would do are key when dealing with customers," he said. "I think it would be hard to be successful without those two things."

But that's not all. "I've learned that hard work pays off" Winkler said "While I was in the Army I worked hard to make my rank and get things done I've used this same hard work ethic in running my

He encourages veterans to give owning a Snap-on franchise some consideration. "I think if veterans want to be their own boss, they should give Snap-on a hard look," Winkler said. "I did, and I'm loving it."

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The Right Tools in the

John Winkler Snap-on. VE | Franchisee John Winkler stands beside his Snap-on Tools mobile truck.

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24 | SEARCH & EMPLOY® MARCH+APRIL 2014

CHECKED IT OUT. **GOT A JOB**

Amtrak

www.amtrak.com

ANTOINE BIAS IS ONE HAPPY and grateful employee at Amtrak – thanks to his military experience and his persistence, advice from his wife - and his attendance at a RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity Expo

Amtrak The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, carries more than 31 million passengers annually to 500 destinations nationwide. And the company is driving the train when it comes to veteran hiring. During fiscal year 2012, more than 14 percent of Amtrak's new hires were veterans. In June 2013, the company made a commitment that by 2015 it would be hiring veterans at a rate of 25 percent of all new hires.

Over the next year, Amtrak expects to hire more than 3,000 people. The company plans to hit its goal by partnering with organizations like Recruit-Military to attend career fairs across the country.

Amtrak's Talent Acquisition Manager Patricia Kerins is a big fan of RecruitMilitary hiring events because "they are efficiently run, and applicant pools are good. They're really my favorite job expos to attend. The venues are great, parking is easy, and everyone is well-prepared and well-dressed." Kerins estimates roughly a third of



the employees that Amtrak has hired in the last several years have come from RecruitMilitary events nationwide. Of all the company's newly hired employees, 26 percent are veterans.

Amtrak has a long history of providing career opportunities to veterans, including active duty military members, Reserve and National Guard. Kerins explains, "They are rules-oriented. Everyone knows what everyone else is doing. They have to. This can be a dangerous business, and safety comes first at Amtrak. Veterans come from an environment of rules. They are aware of safety, especially the veterans who have been in combat recently." In jobs involving heavy ma- out resumes, and talked with many of the em- booth to speak with them. I'm glad I did." •

chinery, or working outdoors on the right of way ployers. Three days later, he started receiving with moving trains passing close by, "you have to rely on someone else to help keep you safe."

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ ANTOINE BIAS

man and completing two 8-month deployments to Afghanistan. He found it hard to find a job at first, so he decided to go to school. As a result, he earned a certificate in automotive engineering from Lincoln College of Technology.

Next up: Put the certificate to work. Bias's Veteran Opportunity Expo on June 27, 2013, at FedEx Field in Landover, Maryland, "just to check it out." Bias admitted to feeling nervous RecruitMilitary and a former gunnery sergeant in Amtrak "made me feel right at home," he said. the Marine Corps.

Before the doors opened at the career fair, Lundberg addressed the crowd of job seekers. to speak with everyone there, "because you never know what positions they may be hiring for." He also cautioned them not to get discouraged. "Even if someone passes on you, it's not specifically seeking former military personnel."

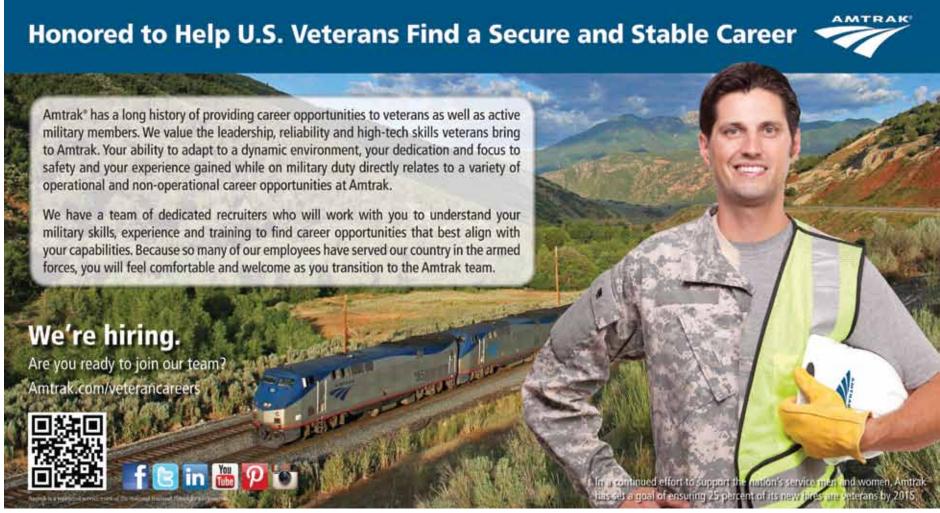
calls to set up interviews. His third interview with Amtrak got him hired. He began work two weeks later as a train mechanic. He now works out of Union Station in Baltimore

Antoine Bias got out of the United States Navy He thinks his time in the Navy helped him get in 2010, after working as an aviation ordnance- the job - in addition to the transition help he received, particularly with resume tips. Bias believes his time spent in uniform made him more detail-oriented, punctual, and organized; and developed his work ethic

In fact, during his interviews, the people who are now his supervisors advised him that the wife convinced him to go to the RecruitMilitary environment and culture at Amtrak were very similar to the military. The interviewers assured Bias that he'd have no problem fitting right in, because he was already used to structure and before the event started, and appreciated the had developed a solid work ethic from his time efforts of John Lundberg, director of events at in the service. They were right. The culture at

And what does Bias think of his new job? "I don't even know where to begin. The environment is uplifting. They employees have a posi-He encouraged them to keep an open mind and tive attitude, and everyone works as one team. You don't have anyone who is disgruntled. Everyone is happy to be there."

Bias hopes other veterans will take the same advice that John Lundberg gave the crowd at the end of the world. Lots of employers are Landover. Bias's supervisors told him they prefer to hire veterans, but he observes "I wouldn't That advice resonated with Bias. He handed have known that if I hadn't stopped by their





BY WILL BAAS

OMCAST CORPORATION is doing its part to hire the estimated 1 million servicemembers who will be leaving the military over the next 5 years. In March 2012, we pledged to hire 1,000 veterans over three years as part of our partnership with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation's Hiring our Heroes initiative. We have already well exceeded our goal, as well. having hired more than 2,000 veter- NBCUniversal develops, producans as we enter our third year of the

These results make me proud to talent acquisition, focused on execu-Resorts tive, campus, and military recruiting; and as a member of the leadership team of Comcast's Veteran's Network affinity group.

officer in the United States Navy. Today, in addition to my work at Comcast. I serve as a U.S. Navy Reservist, holding the rank of captain and working in the field of cryptology and information warfare. To that end, Comcast has been a supportive environment, enabling me to thrive in both of my careers.

Comcast Corporation is a global media and technology company with two primary businesses, Comcast Cable and NBCUniversal

 Comcast Cable is the nation's largest video, high-speed Internet, and phone provider to residential customers under the XFINITY brand; and it supplies those services to businesses

es, and markets entertainment, news, and information to a global audience, via broadcast networks Universal work for Comcast as vice president of Pictures, and Universal Parks and

As one company, those entities have a long tradition – beginning with Comcast founder Ralph J. Roberts, a Navy veteran himself - of employing, I began my career 22 years ago as an supporting, and promoting veterans

Comcast and NBCUniversal have built a program not just to attract and hire veterans, but also to foster a culture of support for the active-duty

Comcast and NBCUniversa /ETERAN RESOURCES

military community and the reservists and veterans working company-wide. Veterans fit well within the ranks of our company because of our shared values of leadership, service, teamwork, and ethics. We seek to attract and retain men and women separating from active duty, reservists, and our veteran employees by:

RECRUITING // We open avenues of opportunity through targeted outreach to the military and veteran communities. We participate in job-seeking workshops and career fairs on military bases, post our career opportunities on veteran-focused career sites such as Recruit Military.com, attend physical and virtual job fairs targeting the veteran and military community, sponsor veteran-focused events, and participate in activities to increase veteran awareness in local communities.

EMPLOYING // We are eager to hire veterans for a variety of positions at all levels, including network engineering, technology, operations, theme parks and resorts, programming, customer service, marketing, and human reresources to help veterans find ca-

SUPPORTING // Our culture supports veterans and reservists within our ranks. We work to ensure a smooth return to Comcast by holding the job of an activated reservist or identifying a position of equivalent level and status. And if the reservist's military pay is less than his or her base pay at Comcast, we cover the difference for up to a year. We also invite our veterans to join the Comcast VetNet Employee Resource Group and NBCUniversal Veterans Network, where veterans share their stories, resources, and support, provide mentorship, and foster professional and personal development.

reers at other employers through our

"Hire a Veteran On Demand" initiative.

A VETERAN SUCCESS_ JOSH CHRISTIAN Will Baas is vice president of talent We have many tremendous stories acquisition at Comcast.

of veterans thriving among the ranks at Comcast because of the culture of support we already have established. One such veteran is Josh Christian, who was staff sergeant in the Army. He served for eight years as a cavalry scout and section sergeant. Now, he is a technical operations supervisor for Comcast in Puvallup, Washington,

While on active duty, Christian conducted reconnaissance to gather information on routes, terrain conditions and enemy forces; and he cleared roads and bridges for oncoming forces. Today, he is putting his leadership skills to a different use at Comcast by supervising a team of technicians that perform service and installation activity to ensure compliance with specific government regulations. His responsibilities vary, but he is very much a leader, mentoring, training, coaching and motivating those on his team

Christian started at Comcast in 2006, and he has worked his way up the ranks. He advanced to his current

He emphasizes the teamwork and discipline he learned in the military as keys to transitioning to civilian life and succeeding in the work force: "Working as an effective team member is crucial "he said "In the military you learn how to adapt to ever-changing environcivilian work place, especially here at Comcast, Leadership experience and self-motivation are also key skills that have helped me in my current role."

Through the years. Comcast and level of training and education a vetproof of what he or she is qualified to do, but more often than not veterans excel because of their well-honed leadership skills, work ethic, integrity and resiliency.



Adherence to **Strong Values** / Cincom Systems, Inc. / www.cincom.com

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over 20 years. The company's enterprise technologies include the following types of application development

- contact center
- database management
- document automation healthcare
- manufacturing enterprise resource
- planning (ERP)
- selling solution

A VETERAN SUCCESS ELOY CAMPOS

Military success is built on adherence to strong values: character, commitment, and competence. Those are also values that Cincom Systems seeks in its own employees. So it comes as no surprise that, after less than a year of working with Cincom, United States Marine Corps Colonel Eloy Campos – a Bronze Star Medal recipient – has proven to be a great fit. Campos is a senior manager of professional services at Cincom.

It did not take long for Jerry Miller, a managing director at Cincom and Campos's supervisor, to appreciate this retired Marine's talents. "I've been very impressed by Eloy's leadership, discipline, and organization he has displayed, which is key for a growing and diverse organization in Cincom's Intelligent Selling Services division "Miller said "Our customers expect Cincom to demonstrate best practices of project management and implementation success, and Eloy's prior experiences both in the military and civilian roles positioned him well for success in his current role."

In 2007, Campos was selected to attend the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. In 2008, he was deployed to Afghanistan for a few months. Then he worked for another three years at the United States European Command in Germany, returned to Afghanistan, and finally returned stateside in May 2013. He was welcomed home as a finalist in the Tribute for Heroes campaign, a national initiative of Major League Baseball and People magazine that recognizes servicemembers and veterans.

"After working as the U.S. Marine Corps Central Command representative coordinating the transition of governance and military operations for the Afghan government, to overseeing several U.S. diplomatic and troop withdrawal initiatives, I was bringing those experiences as a senior leader from the military to direct applications in a corporate environment," explained Campos.

Cincom has worked with many clients for ognized his skills: a sense of responsibility, natural leadership, people skills, and overall confidence. This made Campos an ideal candidate for the role she sought to fill.

> "I look for candidates who have character. commitment, and competence," she said. "These are valuable traits that add value to our organization. These are also traits that I've found instilled in individuals coming from a military background. Some of our top employees here at Cincom are veterans. I knew an event like the RecruitMilitary Expo would draw highly qualified and experienced job seekers like Campos."

> Campos has seen how the Cincom work environment stimulates growth - ideas are encouraged and implemented in a team atmosphere. "The best part of my job is working with the Cincom team to provide solutions for our customers' most pressing business needs," he said. "I find that it's very rewarding when we can deliver superior solutions for the most complex industry challenges."

> Campos manages a team of 23 people, including Cincom employees and independent contractors. All sales that take place within Campos's team also involve services engagement: The team not only sells the software, but also installs, configures, and customizes it. One client is a major manufacturer of light switches, transformers, and other electrical components. Cincom Intelligent Selling Solutions will provide software and services that will enable the client to configure those components more quickly and easily for public and commercial use.

> Campos was brought onto the team during the midst of the development cycle. The project has been going on for several years and is scheduled to go live within the year. "It's been a very complicated project, but probably the most exciting project we've had here in years," he said.

> To servicemembers who are considering leaving the military for civilian employment, Campos offers some advice. "Your resume should be civilianized," he said. "Civilians typically don't understand military lingo, and our experiences can be confusing or intimidating. Work with an organization that will translate your military training into the equivalent civilian skills. The complete skill set military personnel bring isn't that different from civilian business - after all, the military is a business."

Setting a goal is also important. "Before embarking on a career search, a transitioning veteran should determine exactly what he or she Campos attended a RecruitMilitary Veteran wants to do and then focus all his/her energy Opportunity Expo in Cincinnati in May 2013. toward that effort," he said. "Then, work with There, he met Julia Berning, talent acquisi- an organization such as Recruit Military to tion manager at Cincom. She quickly rec-help you connect with potential employers."

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Brian Keller always thought he would enter a field related to biology after obtaining a degree from Indiana University. But after attending the RecruitMilitary Career Fair in Indianapolis in June 2013 and speaking with PMAUSA, he is now only a few tests away from becoming a licensed insurance salesman and producer for the company.

PMAUSA is a national insurance marketing organization headquartered in Dallas. The company offers supplemental health insurance, accident insurance, and life insurance, as an affiliate of Washington National Insurance Company. Both companies are owned by CNO Financial Group.

Keller joined the Army National Guard in December 1999 and served as an 11B Infantryman until May 2005, when he was medically discharged after a Jeep accident.

He credits the military with teaching him integrity, determination, and a strong work ethic. "I learned to never give up, even when faced with situations that seemed insurmountable," he said. "You just keep working. It helped me hone my respect for others. I don't stop until I get something done, and I don't count on hand-offs from others."

The approach Keller took at the Indianapolis event was to visit every booth and gather information from all of them. He was pleased with the layout and organization of the career fair, and grateful that such an event was arranged for veterans. "The opportunities available were numerous, with all kinds of booths and different companies," he said

Several insurance companies were there, and Keller received on-the-spot interviews from all of them. He particularly liked what he heard when he spoke with the recruiters at the Washington National Insurance booth. He also did some research after the event, including looking at start-up costs, time investment, and end pay. It did not take him long to decide to pursue an insurance career with PMAUSA.

By day, Keller studies and takes pre-requisite tests to sell life and health insurance, and by night he works in the restaurant industry. A total of 12 tests are required, end-

ing with an oral examination. He hopes to be fully certified by mid-October, and is excited about the future. "It's an open field full of opportunity. I'm organized and I have a plan." He is also grateful that the RecruitMilitary event opened a new door for him. "Per-



employment situations.

sonally speaking, selling insurance and not doing something related to biology aren't what I expected to do with my life But if the shoe fits, wear it." What can other

veterans take away from Keller's story? "Be flexible and open to different

The PMAUSA recruiters at the Indianapolis event were Chris Ryan, the company's director of recruiting, and Steven Jarrett, a Marine veteran. Ryan has been with the company since 1991 – and has been seeking veteran talent for years. "We already had a handful of veterans within our ranks with many success stories even before there was a specific focus on trying to recruit vets," he said. "We use a proven sales system with detailed training, and veterans respond well to a structured environment. Our most successful agents have a strong work ethic. All of that really coincides well with the background of the average veteran. Veterans are positive, disciplined, committed, and do well with process orientation.'

Candidates interested in becoming independent contractors/agents with PMAUSA undergo a multi-layered training process. They must pass the state licensing examination, and PMAUSA helps pay for their pre-licensing coursework. Once licensed,

agents receive extensive online training as well as the PMAUSA "playbook." They then undergo field training with a manager. Ryan finds a lot of similarities between the military experience and PMAUSA's formula for success. The company is looking for



a history of hard work, a track record of success and progression in rank and responsibility. 'We want folks vho will do what s asked of them within a team, and within a system,

he explained. "They have answered a big question for us just by being in the military It also helps to have an entrepreneurial spirit and exhibited leadership skills. And because they are seeking salespeople, PMAUSA looks for candidates at career fairs who are proactive about introducing themselves and engaging in conversation When creating a civilian resume, Ryan urges veterans to keep it simple. "Assume a civilian will be reading your resume," he said. "It's also good to see that you have won awards, because those tell us something about whether you have a competitive background. Be able to show progression in rank and responsibility."



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For Best Results: Step Up

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ean Bruce spent 20 years ranks of the United States Air Force and 10 years as an officer. Now, as a result of attending a Recruit-Military career fair, he is vice president of change management at MidFirst Bank

MidFirst Bank, headquartered in Oklahoma City, is one of the largest privately held banks in the United States, serving more than 600,000 customers nationwide. MidFirst offers commercial, trust, private banking, and mortgage banking products and services. Its primary markets are Oklahoma City, Phoenix, Tulsa, and western Oklahoma. The bank also has commercial real estate lending offices in Atlanta, Houston, New

York, and Southern California. During his time in the enlisted ranks, Bruce worked as an avionics technician and instructor – and earned a degree in computer studies from the University of Maryland. After obtaining his degree, he went through Officer Candidate School and was commissioned. As an officer, he worked as an air battle manager for AWACS E-3, an airborne intelligence surveillance reconnaissance platform. He deployed to the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He earned an MBA before retiring as a major in 2010.

Before separating from the Air Force, Bruce networked aggressively and linked up with a buddy who was already out of the military. This connection earned him a spot on the East Coast as a senior consultant with Deloitte LLP, an

audit, financial advisory, tax, and consulting firm.

After a few years packed with lots of travel, Bruce decided to move his family back to Oklahoma and seek a job that would keep him closer to home Because he had registered on RecruitMilitary's database and posted his resume there, he received an email alerting him about an upcoming career fair in Oklahoma City in January 2013. At the event, Bruce used an "elevator speech" that he had developed. He had spoken with several defense contractors when he noticed that the MidFirst Bank table was momentarily empty. He shared his story and chatted with the recruiter there, telling her about his transferrable skills. She suggested several positions that might be right for him, and asked him to apply for them on the bank's career page.

After the career fair, he had a phone interview and two face-toface interviews, then received an offer. He began working in April.

So how did his military skills

transfer to banking and help him

land the job? "Regulators like structure," he said. They appreciated that he was well-organized and knew how to create frameworks, timelines, and requirements – all skills he learned in the Air Force. His military background included compliance, standards, and evaluation. Turns out those skills are also a good fit for banking because of the rigorous regulations and scrutiny involved in who understand compliance." he

said. "I would never have made that connection on my own." Bruce prepared MidFirst for the implementation of new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) rules that went into effect in January 2014. The rules govern how financial institutions interact with consumers Bruce drew upon his military skills to

structure to evaluate each rule.

Sean Bruce The framework includes gap assessment, formal review and solution processes, compliance and legal department evaluation, and implementation. Because this framework is highly adaptable, MidFirst is also putting it into

Bruce leads a group of four employees, and his change management team continues to grow. Because of their transferrable skills, he would definitely

Bruce has five top tips for active

"You have transferrable skills," he said. "So, for example, don't be put off by thinking you need many years in financial services to work for a bank."

SHUT THE DOOR ON YOU.

This is a refrain Bruce repeated often to the airmen who worked for him. He encourages active military to take advantage of all the opportunities they can while they are still in the service, including volunteering for assignto do that because it seems like extra work," he said, "but I saw skills that I could use to market

myself." In that vein, he volunteered to participate in Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st Century (AFSO 21) - a military version of the Lean Six Sigma program. He attended for free and earned a certification.

TRACKING YOUR PROJECTS
PAYS OFF. Bruce points out that a lot of military work is project-based. He tracked. categorized, and kept detailed notes on all of his projects. After he retired, he was able to earn his Project Management Professional (PMP) certification using project hours he earned in the

4 JOIN A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION. "Transitioning military members should be involved in professional organizations, such as their local chapter NEVER LET ANOTHER PERSON of the Project Management Institute," he said. "It's a great way to begin building civilian networks and get discounts to certification training and tests."

> DON'T BE BASHFUL. Be prepared to sell yourself. That can be a hard thing to do coming from the team environment of the military, but you've got to step out of your comfort vou've done." •



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The RecruitMilitary writing service was the best thing I could have done to improve my chances of getting a job offer." – Pamela H., E-4, United States Army

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Lopez had

decided to

ioin the Army

after attending

a semester of

PEDRO LOPEZ, a veteran Army mortar man (Indirect Fire Infantryman; MOS 11C) used his communication and customer-service skills to land a recruiting job. He attended a RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity Expo in Chicago in March 2013, got the job recruiting veterans like himself, and hasn't looked back since.



ommunity woke up one day and decided I needed to do something different," he said. He served nearly five years as a mortar

man, separating as a corporal in 2010. The most valuable attributes the military gave him were discipline and structure. He learned to perform tasks before being told by anyone, noting "it's more a discipline of oneself. If

you are disciplined with yourself, that tends to organize everything else."

He thinks veterans are huge assets to civilian employers. "One of the greatest things is that they're stable and dependable. They go above and beyond every day. It's a mentality or a feeling like 'I have to be at the top of my game." Lopez found out about the Chicago Expo because he had registered as a candidate in RecruitMilitary's database at www.recruitmilitary.com and had therefore received emails about the upcoming event. He brought about 30 hard copies of his resume to the event. Although he was interested in the recruiting field, he made sure to speak to lots of companies in other fields;

PEOPLESCOUT / OPPORTUNITIES



and he was impressed with the number and diversity of the employers. When he arrived at the PeopleScout booth, he was interviewed on the spot. PeopleScout is a recruitment process outsourcing (RPO) firm based in Chicago.

Lopez described how his experiences on a mortar squad prepared him for customerservice work in the civilian world. He explained that customer service goes along with every job, and that communication is critical when firing ammunition.

A key part of an indirect fire infantryman's duties are operating two-way radios and signal equipment to relay battle orders. "You have to talk to your superiors, you have

to explain things to your team and communicate with them," he said. "We do a lot of radio work, and it's important to relay messages, understand orders, and communicate effectively."

That description must have worked. Shortly thereafter, PeopleScout hired him. As a veteran career counselor, Lopez places veterans directly into civilian jobs. His company provides full-cycle recruitment, from counseling to interviews to offers.

His advice to veterans who are transitioning or seeking new careers? "Don't have tunnel vision, and be prepared." He urges veterans who are going to attend military-to-civilian job fairs to research the employers that will be there and to have their resumes ready to hand out, "You could land an interview on the spot," he said. He also encourages having an open mind about a company's pay scale. "You may have to start at the bottom and work your way up, just like in the military." \$



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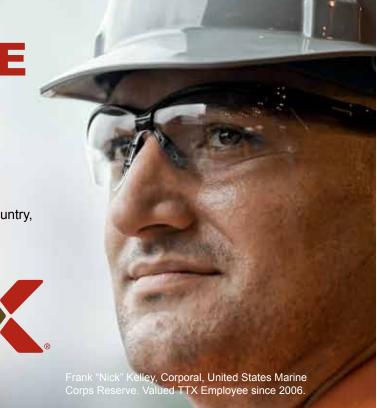
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RED CARPET TO A JOB

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WILLIE DUKES NEVER EXPECTED THE RED CARPET TREATMENT THAT HE AND OTHER POSITIONS WITH ADVANCEPIERRE FOODS. DUKES HAD SPENT NINE YEARS IN THE ARMY AS A LIGHT-WHEELED VEHICLE MECHANIC. AFTER LEAVING THE SERVICE, HE REMAINED IN THE CITY OF HIS LAST ASSIGNMENT, EL PASO. HE ALSO SPENT TIME WORKING FOR A DEFENSE

he landed plenty of interviews for out-of-state low instructions – and easy ones at that." interviews posed a problem.

a RecruitMilitary recruiter that would change if a new position does not exactly match the everything. The recruiter had come across his job performed in the service, he believes the he would be a good fit for one of the many me-veterans to readily adapt to new situations. chanical positions at AdvancePierre Foods.

operates manufacturing centers in Oklahoma distribution center. He handles maintenancecilities and one distribution center, employing he said. 1,800 people in the Oklahoma area. Company

discovered that AdvancePierre Foods would Pierre Foods. "Everyone is generous with their cover his travel, lodging, and meals associated time," he said, "and extended their hand more with the interview process in Enid. "It really was than graciously to me." a winning thing," he said. "I never had a com- Laura Shorter, HR director at AdvancePierre



struggled to find employment in the local job The way AdvancePierre Foods and Recruitjob search, completing a candidate profile pressed him as well. "I've never seen anything database at www.recruitmilitary.com. Although on a red carpet, and all you had to do was fol-

locate, and especially to be confident about

AdvancePierre Foods supplies protein received an offer. He began working three and handheld convenience products for the weeks later – the day after his birthday. "I'll

employs about 4,000 people in 11 facilities. It nance mechanic at AdvancePierre Foods' Fnid Ohio, North Carolina, South Carolina, and related issues ranging from forklifts to freez-Maine: sandwich-assembly facilities in three ers to plumbing, and relies upon the skills he

He is also excited about expanding his knowledge and learning new skills, and appreciates After learning more about the position, Dukes the welcoming and helpful culture at Advance-

> pany offer that Foods, says it is no accident that veterans are before. sought out for employment there. She notes that the company's products - whether burgers or sandwiches – often end up in the hands of military personnel, "We are an American company, and hiring veterans is the right thing to do," she said.

> > to manage many tasks at the same time. she said. "They know how to react faster and come up with solutions. They are proactive and not channeled into one

Shorter is convinced that the company's culture provides a good place for veterans to land, and makes for an easy transition. She pointed out that veterans are embedded in the company at every level from packers to vice presidents. "There are always opportunities for reterans at AdvancePierre Foods," she said. 🌣

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HE FOLKS AT PARSONS Corporation believe the veteran talent pool is a great place for recruiting. Founded in 1944, Parsons is an engineering, construction, technical, and management services firm with revenues of \$3 billion in 2012. The company delivers design/design-build, program/construction management, and other professional services to federal, regional, and local government agencies, as well as to private industrial customers worldwide. Parsons works in many diversified markets, focusing on transportation, environmental/infrastructure, defense/security, and resources. The company employs more than 12,000 people in all 50 states and 25 countries. Corporate headquarters are in Pasadena, California.

Parsons is seeking more employees – among them, veterans who can put their military experience to work for the company. Jake Beltz, a technical recruiter in the Columbia, Maryland, office and a Marine veteran himself, is working hard to make that happen. He is currently looking to fill lots of cybersecurity roles.

Parsons likes to hire veterans for many reasons – their training and security clearances being at the top of the list. "A lot of the work we do coincides with what the military is doing," said Beltz, citing missile defense support, working with government contractors, technical support, and construction projects all over the United States. He also pointed out that principles espoused by the military closely mirror Parsons' core values of safety, quality, integrity, diversity, innovation, and sustainability.

Because reading through resumes is a critical part of his job, Beltz knows what he wants to see. He encourages veterans to capture their accountability, education, job history, and training on their resume. He also warns against including too many acronyms and too much military jargon. "Be able to translate and convert acronyms into business vernacular," he said. Veterans should also include a few highlights per position, and list what they accomplished in each role.

He acknowledges that it can be hard for a transitioning military veteran to shift gears from a team dynamic to "tooting your own horn" about individual accomplishments in a civilian interview setting. Beltz's commanding officer suggested a useful tool to encourage his team to tout their accomplishments. He advised them to make notes after each mission or exercise about key efforts and how they contributed to the mission's success in order to start building



their own resumes
For face-to-face
interviews, Beltz
believes preparatio
is critical. "Dress
for success. Do
your homework.
Research the com-

IAVE DELTT

pany," he said. He also believes in finding commonly-asked interview questions on the Internet, and answering them with a friend or family member until a comfort level is reached. "Interviewing is a skill. The more you practice, the better you're going to be." He also advocates taking time to express one's appropriation to the person who come

He also advocates taking time to express one's appreciation to the person who conducted the interview. He advises sending a short email thanking the interviewer for his or her time.

The core skills he learned in the military still serve Beltz well today. He served in Marine Corps from 2000 until 2008, and supported the initial invasion of Iraq in 2003 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He said, "I was a grunt, serving on a fire team and in a platoon," so he is easily able to identify with transitioning veterans in particular.

Beltz is especially appreciative of the work ethic he learned in the Marines. "Train hard. Work hard," he said. His time in the service also taught him key organizational skills, such as how to come up with a process for everything, and how to manage his time effectively. "It's the Marine Corps way: Adapt and Overcome."

He also uses his experience to give back to veteran organizations. He and other Parsons employees who are veterans volunteer their time with the Wounded Warrior Program. Through fundraising and other events, Parsons also supports the Navy SEAL Foundation and Disabled Sports USA.

Beltz helps veterans build their resumes, conduct job searches, and navigate through the many opportunities available at Parsons. "Parsons is a big company. We have a variety of positions, from engineering to IT to construction. I can show them the big picture of the company, and help point them in the right direction."

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time to interview the first 10 to 20 and deter-

mined that those candidates don't fit, they

might conclude differently, because without

veterans: maturity, responsibility, leadership,

discipline, work ethic – and the list could go

on and on. An employer's goal should be to

assess those intangible qualities, relate those

do that before the interview. It is your task as a

candidate to help, and you need to start early.

We have probably all read helpful hints about

conducting a job search and writing a resume

SELF-ANALYSIS

qualities to specific positions, and ideally to

We all know the value of hiring military

suitability, eligibility doesn't matter.

BY JIM HOITENGA

IF YOU ARE A FAN OF THE TELEVISION SHOW,

"Big Bang Theory," you know the character Dr. Sheldon Cooper, a brilliant physicist with a number of quirks. He is eminently qualified for any number of scientific positions, but a quick – admittedly unscientific – survey of my friends shows that none of them would hire him. Why not? Because, while he is eligible for almost any position based on his education, experience, and intelligence, he is not a suitable match.

If an employer were to recruit a pipeline full of Dr. Cooper's, the company might at first feel fortunate to be able to choose from so many experienced and educated candidates. But after the hiring managers invested their

and cover letter, and the hints are relevant. But there are some other things to think about.

What do YOU want to do? When you transition to a civilian position, do you want to continue on the same career track you were on in the military if there are similar civilian positions? Do you want to have a job you've dreamed about? Or do you want a job to tide you over while you look around? Because you are reading this magazine, I doubt that you want just a stop-gap position.

Are your skills transferable to the civilian career that you want? How would you describe your personality as it relates to work? If you are not sure, ask someone whom you respect and is unbiased. Be sure also to analyze your own skills and passions and match them to a potential new job.

Once you decide what you want to do, the next steps are to prepare a list of companies or agencies for which you might want to work, then conduct some research on those companies and search their job postings. You may already know of several such organizations – businesses that are in your home state, companies that have been in the news, etc. But where do you go from there?

The lists of employers in Search and Employ® magazine are good places to start. For example, on pages 21 and 22 of this issue is a list of employers in the government sector of the economy. In the previous issue – a PDF of which is linked to http://recruitmilitary.com/ search-and-employ – are lists of firms in the financial services, insurance, defense, and aerospace industries. Many of the employers list websites specially designed for veterans.

RESUME AND COVER LETTER

When you read job descriptions, be sure to read between the lines to determine what employers may be looking for that they did not put into the descriptions. Customize your resume and cover letter to address what each employer is looking for.

You will want to use a generally accepted resume format, but you don't want to seem like every other candidate. A cover letter, therefore, is a great place to showcase your communication skills, your ability to analyze what the employer needs, and your ability to organize your thoughts. Your resume should briefly document what you have accomplished by using your skills and attributes, and then your cover letter should expand on them, emphasizing the accomplishments and qualities that apply to that particular job.

A typical large corporation may receive hundreds of resumes from applicants for a vacant position, so the company probably will use software (a Boolean word-search program) that scans your resume and letter for key words

related to the position. You need to determine what those words may be from the job description and then use them - more than once.

Never send a resume without a cover letter. Yes, it's even more work, but recruiters and hiring managers will look more favorably on applicants who show their seriousness by writing a cover letter than the applicants who choose not to.

Do not start your cover letter with a typical overused opening such as "Please consider me for the" Instead, if you have permission to do so, mention a third party - name, position, and company – who will verify the value you offer to employers. Even better:

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- Adaptability

Work Ethic

Pick a third party whom the interviewer or recruiter knows or even has just heard of, and use that name in your first sentence to get attention and gain credibility. You might write, "Ms. Smith, with group/association/company, suggested that you may be looking for...."

How can you find the names to write to or the names to "drop"? Here's a story: I once sent a resume and cover letter to a paper manufacturer in Wisconsin. Through a realtor, I located a retired logger, bought him a cup of coffee, and we talked. That led me to do more research. When I did get the interview, I told the hiring manager about my research, and that the logger I talked to said the company

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Helping our Veterans take the next step by providing a transition to the

was a great one to do business with and to work for. Also, I was not surprised when I met my future boss because I already knew - due to my research – that he was quite a few years younger than I. By the way, he complimented me on my letter and actually asked how long I took to write it. (It took about three hours total, because I really wanted the job.)

Another idea is to open your letter with two or three comparisons of job requirements and what you have done that relates to each one of them. This information will create a bridge between what you have done and what the employer needs.

Writing a cover letter also encourages you

to focus your effort and to analyze yourself and what you have done. View it as another tool that will give you even more confidence in your search.

HAND OUT YOUR RESUME

You should also put your resume to another good use by handing it out at military-to-civilian job fairs such as the Veteran Opportunity Expos produced by RecruitMilitary. The company produces more than 65 events in over 35 cities nationwide every year. A schedule of the events remaining in 2014 is on page 43 of this magazine.

SCREENING TOOL

The company with which I am associated, EPIC Software Corporation, helps out on the employer side of the job-search process. Our job-specific, pre-employment screening tool, used by employers:

- assesses skills, personality characteristics, and many other work-related qualities of ap-
- determines how well the characteristics of each of those applicants makes him or her suitable for the specific job openings to be filled
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Employers are telling us that our tool is greater than 87 percent accurate more than 95percent of the time at predicting which candidates should be hired for specific jobs. The tool can also benefit you as a job seeker: If you truly match the requirements of a specific job, your work experience is likely to be enjoyable, and you are likely to be highly productive.

SUMMING UP

Employers will judge your ability to think clearly by how clearly you communicate. They will judge how earnest you are in wanting the job by how well you relate what you can provide to their needs and the effort they perceive that you have put into this search. After all, at this point in the game and until the interview, what else do they have to go on?

Many organizations large and small are facing a need to hire qualified people to replace the projected retirements of thousands and thousands of baby boomers. Let's get started! Good luck, and thank you for serving in the armed forces of the United States.

Jim Hoitenga is a strategic partner of EPIC Software Corporation and a former sergeant in the United States Army. He is available at hoitengajim@yahoo.com.



RESUMES AND COVER **LETTERS**

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HOW TO WORK A RECRUITMILITARY **OPPORTUNITY EXPO**



opportunities all over the room at RecruitMilitary Opportunity Expos—job opportunities with employers, opportunities to go into business for yourself with franchisors who value your ability

to get the job done, and opportunities to advance your education via online and oncampus learning.

How do you find the opportunities that are best for you? Below are some tips on interviewing with recruiters at a military-tocivilian job fair.

DRESS FOR THE PART. If you are on active duty or you are attending the event on a reserve or National Guard drill day, wearing your uniform is great. In all other cases, you should wear the same civilian outfit that you would wear at a one-on-one interview at an employer's place of business. And that should be a business suit or, at the very least, a business casual outfit, complete with

STAY ENTHUSIASTIC if a recruiter asks you to email your resume to his/her company. The recruiter will not be brushing you off. In fact, being asked for the email will be a good sign. Many companies require their recruiters to gather resumes by email: (1) to obtain HR information as required by law; and (2) so they can direct desirable job seekers to dif-

TRY TO GET TO ALL OF THE BOOTHS, even those that may not seem as if they have any opportunities for you. An employer's name

or its primary industry does not necessarily

indicate what openings the company is trying to fill. For example, a drugstore chain may be recruiting for positions in transportation/ distribution or accounting

Even if you are not going to the event to discuss continuing your education, talk with the recruiters at the booths for educational institutions. Today's institutions deliver learning opportunities in many ways other than traditional, full-time, daytime classes on a campus. A few minutes of conversation may lead to an unexpected continuing-education solution that is right for you.

Another factor to consider: Most of the educational institutions at our events are always on the lookout for people to go to work for them. If you have a high level of knowledge on almost any subject and you think you might have a talent for teaching and/or designing courses, talk with the recruiters.

I have similar advice for job seekers who have not been thinking of going into business for themselves. Franchise opportunities are available in a tremendous variety of fields. Arranging for financing may be easier than you think, with surprising discounts available to veterans. Stop by the franchisors' boothsone of them may very well have a plan that matches your interests and your situation.

MEMORIZE YOUR STORY. Before you go to employers' booths, create some talking points. Put together a 30-to-60-second "story" about yourself that includes some of your successes and areas of interest. Be ready to discuss how your military experience relates to the civilian workplace. You should also prepare yourself for a long, detailed interview—employers have hired people on the spot at our events. •

Robert Walker is vice president sales at Recruit-Military and a veteran of the United States Army.



RecruitMilitary VETERAN OPPORTUNITY EXPOS

RECRUIT ILITARY MARCH 2014 HIRING HEROES



100 Years Standing Up for American Enterp 24 Orlando U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Selected events will be designated Hiring Our Heroes/ RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity Expos. We will produce these events in cooperation with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce They will be part of the Chamber's Hiring Our Heroe veteran hiring career fair initiative, which was launched in March 2011

13 Philadelphia

20 Washington

27 Jacksonville

13 Louisville

20 Raleigh

27 Houston

3 Chicago

10 Boston

MAY 2014

Oakland

8 San Antonio

15 Norfolk

APRIL 2014

- 19 Los Angeles 6 Dallas
 - 26 Atlanta

10 St. Louis 17 Dallas

24 Philadelphia

- 21 Richmond
- 28 Tampa
- 22 New York 29 Baltimore
- 29 Cincinnati JUNE 2014
- 5 Charlotte 5 Seattle

12 Oklahoma City

26 Washington

JULY 2014

- 10 Indianapolis
- 24 Columbus

AUGUST 2014

- 7 Houston 7 Minneapolis
- 14 Nashville 14 San Diego

SEPTEMBER 2014

- 4 Boston 11 Denver
- 11 San Antonio 18 New Orleans
- 18 New York 25 Kansas City

EXPO INFO

OCTOBER 2014

2 Baltimore

2 Cincinnati

9 Chicago

9 Oakland

16 Phoenix

23 Dallas

30 Atlanta

30 Austin

16 Pittsburgh

6 Jacksonville

6 Philadelphia

13 Los Angeles

13 Charlotte

20 Norfolk

DECEMBER 2014

4 San Diego

11 Las Vegas

4 Houston

20 Seattle

The Overall Scene

WHO WILL BE THERE?

Your first stop at a RecruitMilitary Opportunity Expo will be a registration desk where you will fill out a brief form (unless you have pre-registered) and receive a list of the organizations—called "exhibitors"— that have booths at the event. When you enter the actual Opportunity Expo area, you will see many closely spaced exhibitor "booths"— tables and various displays. At the booths, recruiters who represent the exhibitors will talk with you.

WHO WILL BE THE EXHIBITORS?

A wide variety of exhibitors attend our events — corporate employers, law-enforcement agencies and other government employers, franchisors, and both campusbased and online educational institutions.

The corporate employers are engaged in construction, defense contracting, energy production, manufacturing, security, transportation and logistics, engineering, healthcare, finance, insurance, information technology, retail, and home services, to name just a few industries.

Their recruiters interview for all kinds of jobs: salaried, hourly, and part-time; professional and technical.

WILL THE LINES BE LONG?

At most booths, at most events, no. The events run for four hours - from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. – and average about 81/2 job seekers per exhibitor. Lines are usually longest immediately after an event opens at 11:00 a.m., and they taper off significantly by around 1:00.

But I need to tell you this: Sometimes, a long line forms at one or two booths when an event opens, and the lines are still there when the event officially closes. This is often the case for large, high-profile defense contractors that are hiring. But the recruiters almost always stay over and talk with everybody in line. So it comes down to: Who wants the jobs?

DO I HAVE TO PRE-REGISTER?

No, but I recommend that you do so – for three reasons:

HELP YOUR BUDDIES Pre-registering prevents the lines at our registration desk from building up, especially during the early hours of the events.

HELP US Pre-registering helps us evaluate the effectiveness of our event marketing – which, in turn, helps us boost the turnout of veteran job seekers – which, in turn. makes our events more attractive to employers which means more job openings to discuss

3 HELP YOURSELF When you pre-register, you immediately join our database of 610,000+ veteran job seekers, which is continually being searched by employers.

O PRE-REGISTER, go to www.recruitnilitary.com and use the "Upcoming Job airs" map to select a city. Clicking on that city will take you to a registration page for the next event there.



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Preparation was his key to success

HRIS CORNISH was not expecting to land a job right out of the gate at the RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity Expo in Atlanta in June 2013, but that is exactly what he did. The former surface warfare officer had served seven years in the Navy, separating in January 2013. "I wasn't sure what I wanted to do – some kind of general management or project management," he said. Nevertheless, he was prepared, having been to two previous RecruitMilitary hiring events. He had also filled out a candidate profile in RecruitMilitary's database at www.recruitmilitary.com, so that employers could view his skill sets and interests, and he had hard copies of his resume ready to hand out at the Expo.

When Cornish showed up at the Georgia Packard was hiring. Dome, he took a "practice lap" around the event so he could see the different companies present and scout the ones he definitely want- days later, he accepted a job as a customer sered to visit. After that, he visited many different vice manager. Now, Cornish handles a variety booths "not really knowing what I was looking of project management duties for the company. for." Using this approach, Cornish spoke to a Cornish believes his military skills have variety of recruiters.

He connected well with the recruiter at work under pressure, multi-task, handle com-Hewlett-Packard and felt that his skills were a peting priorities at once, and get the job done," good match for roles the company was looking he said. He encourages veterans to "Stay opto fill. The resumes he brought came in handy timistic and keep going. You have to meet the because the recruiter immediately handed right person, and ultimately things work out." •



spoke to Cornish in more detail about his experience and the positions for which Hewlett-

That conversation led to a call the next day to visit the HP facility, and a formal interview. Two helped him in his new role. "I learned how to



understand that innovation drives our success, our focus has been on staying at the forefront of customized telecommunications infrastructure solutions. With our nationwide reach and resources, MasTec Network Solutions focuses on safety and the training and development of the industry's best in class technicians. We offer incredible career opportunities as well as benefits, incentive plans, and paid time off.

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SPECIAL SECTION for VETERAN HIRING LEADERS

EDITORIAL themes

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MAY JUN	Energy & Utilities Education Opportunities
JUL AUG	Transportation & Logistics Manufacturing
SEP OCT	Healthcare Retail
NOV DEC	Law Enforcement IT & Telecom

2015

JAN FEB	Defense & Aerospace Financial Services
MAR APR	Government Franchising

Contact your RecruitMilitary Account Executive about advertising in Search & Employ*.

DATABASE SNAPSHOT

Database of registered job seekers at

www.recruitmilitary.com on January 27, 2014 601,247 / Registered searchable candidates

RANK

91.7% / Enlisted personnel 7.4% / Commissioned Officers 0.9% / Warrant Officers

60.7% / Caucasian 22.7% / African-American

9.6% / Hispanic 2.2% / Asian

1.1% / Native American

3.8% / Other

GENDER

83.6% / Men 16.4% / Women

ACTIVE SECURITY CLEARANCES

3,420 / Top Secret

10,391 / Top Secret/SCI *Individual has a* Top Secret Clearance and is cleared to access Sensitive Compartmentalized Information (SCI) 116 / L-DOE Clearance granted by the United

States Department of Energy 174 / Q-DOE Clearance granted by the United States Department of Energy; more difficult to

obtain than L-DOE

79 / ISSA Industrial Security Staff Approval

HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL

22.0% / High School 26.1% / Beyond High School

7.8% / Professional Certificate 13.5% / Associate's Degree In our January/February 2014 issue, we re-21.5% / Bachelor's Degree 8.8% / Master's Degree 0.4% / Doctor's Degree SERVICE BRANCH

21.6% / Navy 16.7% / Air Force

by PETER GUDMUNDSSON

RecruitMilitary Adds Three Veterans to Staff



have joined our staff. States Air Force, has ents across all of our product lines." ioined our managenent team as director client marketing. Wrigleyville area of Kevin Schilling a Chicago He attended

Navy veteran, is our new national account ex- Illinois State University. ecutive in charge of the Chicagoland area. And Jarod Myers, who served in the Army, is our from 1995 to 1999. He national account executive overseeing the San Antonio region CHRISTINE RUBLE is a

native of the Cincinnati area. During her tenure in the Air Force, she specialized in logistics and supply. She brings a history of marketing success to her new role, having spent 11 years at Procter and Gamble CHRISTINE RUBLE (P&G). She served as



a marketing manager for Trial, Sampling and Marketing Services, a brand operations division of P&G, where she handled strategic sampling models for 150 brands and sub-brands. As a strategic display manager she also led commercial merchandise planning for the company's Oral country. Leaders of these companies know that Care North America Division.

Ruble offers the best of both worlds. She is an Air Force veteran who has lived the veteranto-civilian work experience, and she is a P&Gcharacter join our management team.

"I am so excited to be able to join this veteran JAROD MYERS comes from Fort Wayne, Indi- United States Marine Corps. He is available at

outstanding veterans opportunities to find jobs, and even more pas- 2002 to 2005 as an sionate about showing our clients why veterans Christine Ruble, a are a huge asset to any company. My focus will cal support technician. veteran of the United be on highlighting the value of veterans to cli-

> KEVIN SCHILLING hails from Vernon Hills, IIlinois, and currently resides in the Lakeview/

was a Petty Officer-Operations Specialist 2nd Class, and was stationed at Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

Schilling is a seasoned KEVIN SCHILLING

executive, with a strong business-to-business background, and brings more than five years of sales and management experience to RecruitMilitary. He has worked previously with Sprint, Groupon, AvePoint, Inc., and Directions Training; and has worked in the IT, wireless, and advertising industries.

He knows firsthand that teamwork, drive and ability are what makes organizations excel: these are the attributes of high-quality veteran job candidates. Chicago is home to many of the largest, most dynamic, and creative organizations in the they will succeed only with the type of highquality human talent found among our veterans.

"I am beyond thrilled and excited to come onboard with such an amazing organization trained marketing professional. We are thrilled and team, I'm looking forward to making a big to have an executive of Christie's quality and difference and positively impacting our fellow

organization and marry my two worlds of miliana, and currently resides in San Antonio. He peter@recruitmilitary.com.

announce that three signate about the mission of giving veterans management, and served in the Army from

infantryman and medi-Myers deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and was also stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He is a combat Iraq veteran with a passion

tions succeed by at-

JAROD MYERS for helping organiza-

tracting, appreciating, and retaining high-quality veteran talent. He has the drive and intellect to have a large impact in Texas and beyond. RecruitMilitary is interested in the central and south Texas region because of the business growth in the area, and the great support that Texans have for veterans and military.

Myers brings to his new role a history of building relationships in the veteran niche. He served as a veteran constituent liaison for Congressman John Carter (R-TX31), and held a management role at the TexVet Initiative, Myers is also the founder and president of Centurion Military Alliance (Texas), and has served as a regional manager at Bluebonnet Trails Healthcare Center, where he identified and directed advocacy opportunities for veterans.

"I am genuinely excited to represent a company that has led the way for years in developing and providing industry-leading solutions for both companies with a vested interest in hiring veterans, and veterans seeking employ-

Peter Gudmundsson is CEO and president of RecruitMilitary and a former officer in the

2013: A GREAT YEAR FOR EXPOS



our year-end survey of Expo exhibitors are in, and the numbers are even better: great. Our Veteran Opportunity Expos are job fairs that are enhanced to include franchisors, educa-

and veterans service organizations as well as corporate and government employers.

ported on post-Expo surveys of employers that exhibited at the first 56 our events in 2013. We asked the employers how many candidate interviews they expected to conduct and the number of job offers they expected to make as a result of exhibiting. The results were outstanding:

Number of employer booths = 1.963. an average of 35.1 per event

Number of interviews expected = 10,268 to
 We have been producing military-to-civilian reUnited States Marine Corps.

Number of job offers expected = 5,104, an average of 2.6 per employer

For all 67 events in 2013, the results were Number of employer booths = 2.365, an

average of 35.3 per event Number of interviews expected = 12,898 to 21,110, an average of 5.5 to 8.9 per employer or designated Hiring Our

average of 2.7 per employer or 94.5 per event Other results for the year, in terms of "percent favorable'

overall Expo experience 94.6%

return on investment 81.2%

• likelihood to participate in a future Expo 90.7% logistics 94.5%

pre-event communications 95.6% • on-site support 97.3%

193 to 315 per event

quality of candidates 93.5% number of candidates 89.9%

2006. By the end of 2014, we will have produced more than 550 events in over 50 cities. We have scheduled 67 events for 2014.



■ EXPO INFO ■

Heroes/RecruitMilitary Veteran Opportunity tional institutions, • Number of job offers expected = 6,329, an Expos. We produce these events in collaboration with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. They will be part of the Chamber's Hiring Our Heroes veteran hiring career fair initiative, which was launched in March 2011.

> If you are a recruiter for an employer and you like the look of our numbers, contact me at larry@recruitmilitary.com. For details and rates, visit http://recruitmilitary.com/employers/job-fairs.

Larry Slagel is senior vice president of sales at RecruitMilitary and a former captain in the

WWW.RECRUITMILITARY.COM

SPECIAL SECTION for VETERAN HIRING LEADERS

serve in ranks from second lieutenant through

the highest levels of general in the Army. Air

Force, and Marine Corps; and from ensign

through the highest admiral ranks in the Navy

and Coast Guard Ranked between enlisted

personnel and commissioned officers in the

Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard

John Lundberg is director of event opera-

tions and logistics at RecruitMilitary and a

former gunnery sergeant in the United States

Air Force Marines Coast Guard TOTAL

1.546

4,633

1.272

1.886

2.828

1.239

10.284

5.641

1 531

32.368

8,659

636

12.268

43.707

6.102

17.561

28,472

2,284

2,711

2.561

6.359

2,441

24.396

21.806

2,100

172,768

4.375

3,025

206

6.484

2.575

22.040

14.946

32.359

49 557

8.292

6.609

35.695

5 744

44.634

4.722

3.870

16.238

7.275

1.940

19.782

4.523

65.103

264,229

581

53,949

175.397

136.143

163 097

31.141

24.174

81,427

28,411

167.869

14.303

55.676

31,958

8,572

1.177

3,478

50,346

249,849

Marine Corps. He is available at john.lund

are specialists known as warrant officers.

AN UPDATE ON MILITARY SKILL SETS



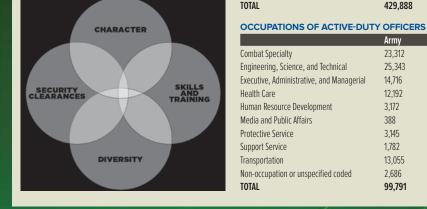
I presented two skill sets, based on Occupational Outlook Handbook. The *Handbook* is

Statistics (BLS), a part of the United States Department of Commerce, On January 8, 2014. the BLS published the 2014-15 Handbook and we have updated the tables accordingly. Veterans offer civilian employers a wide variety of skill sets that they acquired while

in the service. In many cases, the skills are immediately applicable in the workplace. In other cases, the employers need to provide job-specific training — but the veterans' skill levels are already so high that they absorb the training quickly.

The overwhelming majority of active-duty personnel work in military employment categories that have easily recognized civilian counterparts, ranging from "Engineering, Science, and Technical" and "Machine Operator and Production" to "Transportation and Material Handling" and "Executive, Administrative, and Managerial."

Why Hire Veterans?



aust 2012 issue, hire veterans who had a "Combat Specialty" the highest petty officer levels in the Navy often referred to as "Combat Arms." And and Coast Guard. Commissioned officers employers in a wide variety of industries value combat arms veterans for their leaderdata in the 2012-13 ship and decision-making skills.

In our tables, the figures following the names of the categories represent the numbers of personnel engaged in those occupations in June 2013. The source of the figures Bureau of Labor is the Defense Manpower Data Center of the United States Department of Defense (DoD) The originals of the tables are in the "Military" chapter of the Handbook, at http://www.bls gov/ooh/military/military-careers.htm.

Enlisted personnel serve in ranks through berg@recruitmilitary.com. the highest sergeant levels in the Army. Air

Construction

Health Care

Electronic and Electrical Equip. Repair

Engineering, Science, and Technical

Human Resource Development

Media and Public Affairs

Protective Service

Support Service

Machine Operator and Production

Transportation and Material Handling

Non-occupation or unspecified coded

Vehicle and Machinery Mechanic

OCCUPATIONS OF ACTIVE-DUTY ENLISTED PERSONNE

122,254

18.144

35.203

44,873

32.199

16.608

4.615

25.167

11.086

49.237

2.984

23.312

25.343

14,716

3.172

388

1.782

13.055

99.791

429,888

8.219

4,410

46.387

38.923

26.253

3.956

8.353

11.378

7.901

37.246

46.551

2.966

9.720

6.942

6.382

3.189

256

939

11 025

54,256

263,572

RecruitMilitary Wins Its Second WEDDLE's Award

by MIKE ROLLINS



100,000 employment sites on the Internet, its users have spoken. RecruitMilitary has been named a winner of the 2014 WEDDLE's User's Choice Awards for the second consecutive year. RecruitMilitary is laser-focused on the needs of all our users veteran candidates and client employers alike. It

WITH MORE THAN

is reassuring that our efforts are formally recognized through this award.

These awards are the only accolades in the online employment services industry in which actual users pick the winners. Each year, employers, recruiters, and job seekers are invited to cast their ballots on Weddles.com. The top 30 sites then earn User's Choice Award designation.

This is the tenth year anniversary of the awards Winners will be included in WEDDLE's "Best Practices" training provided to recruiters and HR professionals.

WEDDLE's is a research, publishing, and consulting firm dedicated to helping individuals and organizations maximize their employment success. Since 1996, WEDDLE's has conducted surveys of recruiters and job seekers and of websites providing employment-related products and services online. The company's research has been cited in such publications as The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Money, Fortune, and Inc. magazine.

Peter Weddle, chief executive officer of WED-DLE's, LLC, noted, "We all work in a highly competitive industry in which many organizations claim to be the best in the business. The WEDDLE's User's Choice Awards are proof positive that an organization is, in fact, among the elite in its field." •

Mike Rollins is vice president of sales at RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United States Navv. He is available at mike.rollins@recruitmilitary.com



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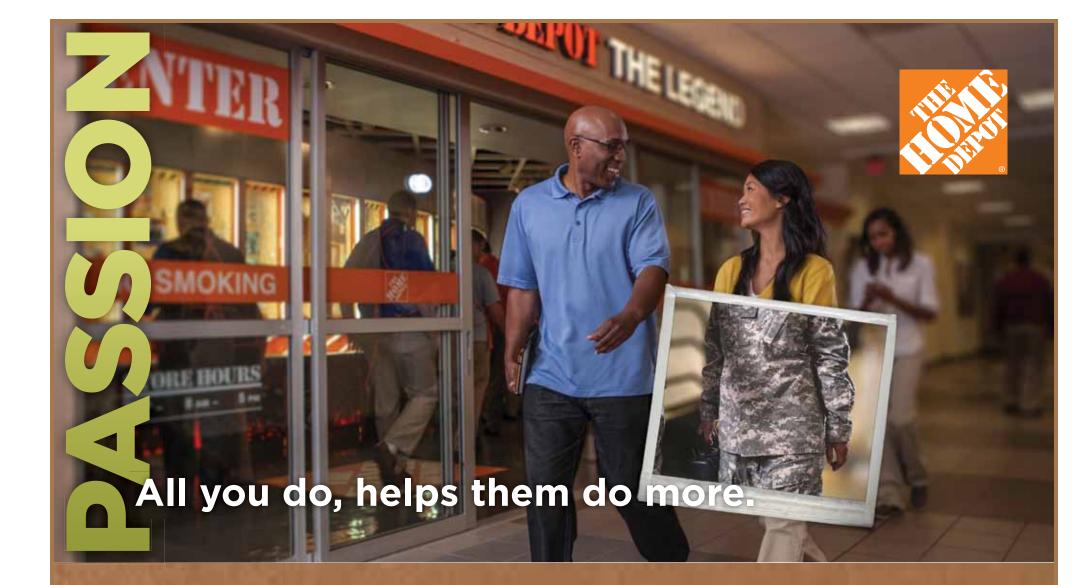
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31	AMVETS	www.amvets.org/CareerCenter/
11	APi Group Inc.	www.apigroupinc.com
14	Archer-Daniels-Midland Company	www.adm.com/militaryrecruiting
35	Areva Inc.	www.careers.areva.com
22	AutoNation	http://jobs.autonation.com/
42	Best In Class Education	http://bestinclasseducation.com/
Outside Back Cover	BNSF Railway	www.bnsf.com/careers/military
18	C.R. England, Inc.	www.crengland.com/vets
23	Cape Air	www.capeair.com/jobs
34	Capital One	www.capitalonemilitary.com
16	CDA Technical Institute	www.cda.edu
8	Clay Cooley Automotive Group	www.ComeSeeClay.com
39	Comcar Industries	http://joincomcar.com/military
5	DeVry University	http://lp.keller.devry.edu/search1b
47	DeVry University	http://lp.keller.devry.edu/search1c
10	Duke Eye Center's Ophthalmic Technician	maps, spinosionaeri ji odas joodi tii it
	Training Program	http://tinyurl.com/DukeOptech
15	Eaton Corporation	www.eaton.com/MilitaryCareers
45	•	•
	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	http://worldwide.erau.edu/military/
28	Enterprise Products	http://careers.enterpriseproducts.com
3	Florida Army National Guard	www.nationalguard.com/
21	Florida Hospital Waterman	www.fhwat.org/
32	GE Oil & Gas	www.ge.com/veterans
27	General Electric	www.ge.com/veterans
4	Georgia College of Construction	www.georgiacc.com/
33	Goodyear Tire & Rubber	www.goodyear.com/careers/
23	Groendyke Transport, Inc.	www.groendyke.com
9	H&E Equipment Services, Inc.	https://hehiring.com/
5	Keller Center for Corporate Learning	http://lp.keller.devry.edu/search1b
34	Lowe's	http://Lowes.com/Careers
44	Mastec Network Solutions	www.mastecnetworksolutions.com/
12	McDonald's Corporation	www.mcdonalds.com/veterans
17	Military Sealift Command	www.sealiftcommand.com
41	NetVersant Solutions, LLC	www.netversant.com/content/careers
3	9Round Fitness Franchise	www.9round.com/
4	Northern California College of Construction	www.ccc-north.com
4	Oklahoma College of Construction	www.ok-cc.com
	•	
38	Petro Truck Stops	www.petrotruckstops.com
44	PlaneTechs LLC	www.planetechs.com/apply
42	Prime, Inc.	http://Driveforprime.com
19	Prudential Financial	http://jobs.prudential.com
13	Quest Diagnostics	www.questdiagnostics.com/home/about/careers
25	RecruitMilitary Job Board	http://recruitmilitary.com
33	RecruitMilitary Resume Writing	https://recruitmilitary.com/resume-writing
36	Republic Services	www.RepublicServices.com/careers
30	Risk Management Solutions, Inc.	www.rms.com/careers
21	Ross Stores, Inc.	http://rossstores.com/careers
6 - 7	Schlumberger	http://careers.slb.com/
Cover, 24-25	Snap-On Tools	www.snaponfranchise.com
40	St. Jude Children's Research Hospital	www.stjude.org/jobs
38	T A Travel Centers of America	www.tatravelcenters.com
13	Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service	http://teex.org/va
22	Texas Instruments	http://careers.ti.com/
37	The Art Institutes	http://careers.tt.com/
48		•
	The GEO Group, Inc.	www.geogroup.com/hiringheroes
Inside Back Cover	The Home Depot	http://work4homedepot.com/searchandemploy
48	The Ocean Corporation	www.oceancorp.com
38	Transocean Offshore Deepwater Drilling	http://deepwater.com/careers
35	TTX Company	www.ttx.com
29	USAA	http://usaa.com/recruitmilitarycc
33	UTC Aerospace Systems	www.utcaerosnacesystemscareers.com

UTC Aerospace Systems

West Virginia Army National Guard

www.wv.ngb.army.mil/

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