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Search & Employ® magazine is published by RecruitMilitary, 422 West Loveland Avenue, Loveland OH 45140 (Greater Cincinnati) Phone 513-683-5020 Fax 513-683-5021

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### A note from Peter

YOUR PARENTS probably told you that you will go far with a good education and even further with a great one. While most of us believe in that adage, few have confidence in knowing how to be effective "consumers" of education.

The "investment" of education conveys three primary benefits to the student-consumer. First, there is the actual knowledge provided. After finishing a course of study, one should know better how to do something. For example, one might learn how to weld or how to install electrical wiring. Others might learn to write with clarity or argue with authority and conviction. It is important to be clear about what your actual learning objectives are.

Next, an education will deliver an experience that should be some combination of enlightening, enjoyable, and encouraging. The journey of how you learn can be as important as what you learn. You need to understand yourself and how you best learn.

Finally, education is a brand and a credential. Think carefully about the brand in the context of your career objectives. For example, if you want to be a corporate lawyer, where you go to law school matters a great deal. If you aspire to becoming an HVAC technician it may also matter (or not) where you obtain your training and certification. You have to do your homework and talk to current students and alumni.

### POWER UP!

This issue of Search & Employ is also focused on energy and utilities. These are fields that are hungry for the skills and talents that veterans offer. Energy companies that are large, small, and every size in between companies working in the petroleum, natural gas, coal, nuclear, hydro, wind, solar, and other renewables sectors – are eager to hire and retain high quality veteran talent. And so are all three kinds of utility companies that deliver natural gas and electric power to commercial and residential customers - community-owned companies such as Philadelphia Gas Works, customer-owned firms such as the Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative, and investor-owned businesses such as Pacific Gas and Electric.

Whether you are seeking your first civilian job or have been out and working for a few years, be sure to contact the companies mentioned in these pages, on our website at www.recruitmilitary.com, and at the Opportunity Expos that we produce all over the United States; there is a schedule of these job fairs on page 51 of this magazine. Companies that support RecruitMilitary and use our recruitment products are serious about hiring veterans – they want to hear from you.

All the best,
Peter A. Gudmundsson
CEO and president, RecruitMilitary
peter@recruitmilitary.com

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ABOUT RECRUITMILITARY

is a full-service military-to-civilian recruitment firm that connects job seekers who have military backgrounds with employers, franchisors,

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 675,000 registered job seekers at www.recruitmilitary.com maintain a website that carries links to employers sites and careers pages, and conduct direct recruiting with our own staff of recruiters.

of our other employees have served in the armed forces. RecruitMilitary was founded

In 2012, RecruitMilitary received the first annual One More Way Award from The Sierra Group with disabilities. The Sierra Group Foundation.

In 2013. RecruitMilitary's website won a User's

the Capital One Award for Small Business Veteran and Military Spouse Employment – an award pestowed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Sweet Sixteen" in its Most Social Small Business Contest. Mashable (http://mashable.com) is an independent online news site dedicated to cover ing digital culture, social media, and technology. Mashable vetted all entrants by dissecting their social presences, consumer engagement, short esponses, company size, and revenue numbers.

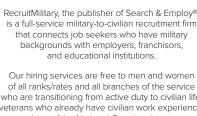
RecruitMilitary is a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the International Association of Employment Web Sites, and is accredited by the Better Business Bureau. Company headquarters











email a monthly jobs newsletter called The VetTen

All of RecruitMilitary's officers and most 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."

Foundation. The foundation established the award to recognize people or companies whose support esults in awareness of, and job opportunities for people (www.thesierragroup.com/foundation.htm) is a non-profit ization whose mission is "to drive up employ-

ment for people with disabilities, including veterans.

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.

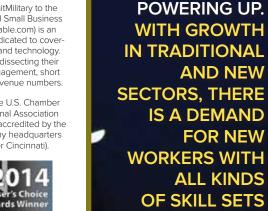
In 2013, RecruitMilitary was a finalist for

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

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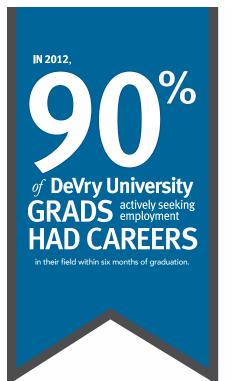


Figure based on 2012 graduates self-reporting data to DeVry University Career Services who were employed at graduation or actively seeking employment in their field after graduation. Does not include master's degree graduates or graduates who were not actively seeking employment, as determined by DeVry University Career Services, or who did not report data on employment status to DeVry University Career Services.



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FINANCIAL STABILITY, COMPANY VALUES, OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONAL GROWTH, AND A CULTURE THAT RECOGNIZES THE VALUE OF SOMEONE WHO SERVED IN THE MILITARY. MANY VETERANS WHO GO TO WORK FOR CHESAPEAKE ENERGY CORPORATION CITE ANOTHER REASON AS WELL – ONE THAT INVOLVES THEIR PATRIOTIC PASSION FOR THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE.

"A lot of veterans choose to join Chesapeake and other companies in this industry because they have a desire to see America as energy independent," said John Reinhart, senior vice president - Operations and Technical Services – at Chesapeake. "That speaks to veterans who want to keep working to make their country the best it can be.

Chesapeake is the second-largest producer of natural gas and the 10thlargest producer of oil and natural gas liquids in the United States. The company focuses on discovering and developing its large resource base of unconventional natural gas and oil assets onshore in this country. Fortune magazine has named Chesapeake to its "100 Best Companies to Work For" list for seven consecutive years. Company headquarters are in Oklahoma City

As a former soldier, Reinhart appre-

ciates this patriotic mission, particularly after serving multiple deployments overseas. "I spent three-and-a-half years in the Army as a military policeman, and separated honorably as an E-5 sergeant," he said. "My deployments included participation in Operation Desert Storm in Iraq and two deployments to Panama, including participation in Operation Just Cause."

His post-military work experience is just as impressive. "In addition to my military service, my career has included working for two companies," Reinhart said. "I worked at Schlumberger for 11 years in a variety of positions including field operations, technical roles, human resources, sales and marketing, and senior management. I joined Chesapeake in 2006, and have held various roles that have given me great exposure to

the technical and business sides of

the E&P [exploration and production] industry. The Operations and Technical Services team that I currently lead provides technical, operational. supply chain, and commercial support to the operating businesses."

### VETERAN HIRING

Reinhart said that the company is looking for technically qualified candidates. "The company's largest need is for petrotech professionals working in technical functions or leadership positions (post-training)," he said. "Engineers and geologists, two examples of petrotech careers, are critical to the success of Chesapeake."

Because Chesapeake has hired veterans in the past and found them to be extremely impressive on many levels, it makes a concerted effort to hire and retain qualified veteran candidates. "Chesapeake is a committed veteran employer," Reinhart said.

initiative that specifically seeks out veterans for available positions. This initiative includes Chesapeake's participation at veteran recruiting fairs and a veterans-only email address so military candidates can contact our recruiters directly. Also, our recruiters have been trained in how to read military resumes and translate military skills into context for hiring managers."

"We have a military hiring

### SUPPORT AND INVESTMENT

Chesapeake's appreciation for veterans extends well past the acceptance letter. The company goes beyond what most companies do to support their employees who have military service experience. "Beyond hiring, Chesapeake has a corporate culture supportive of veterans," Reinhart said. "Through programs such

as Troop Connect, veterans are able to transition to civilian careers with the support of the company and its network of 1,000+ veterans."

Troop Connect is an affinity group and social network created exclusively for the company's veteran employees, their family members, and employees with veteran family members. Troop Connect is their place to tell a story, ask a question, connect with others in similar situations, and find resources. Interested new veteran employees can connect with established veteran employees, join military-focused volunteer projects, and attend regular gatherings with their peers. "It's an effort to get employees talking," Reinhart said. "It's for building a network and finding out about internal job opportunities. We talk business, about best practices, and connect key leaders with employees.

The company also conducts annual events that honor veterans, including Veterans Day ceremonies at corporate headquarters and field offices.

While the company appreciates that veterans have served their country, Chesapeake's interest in hiring and keeping them stretches beyond that. Veterans have an unmatched work ethic and a commitment to teamwork." Reinhart said. "They also bring outstanding leadership skills – skills that are scalable for the field or the board room. Their military backgrounds often include technical training that translates well to our industry, and they recognize and value the importance of

safety while on the job. Because they are valuable employees, Chesapeake invests in its veterans. "At Chesapeake, hiring veterans is a win-win," said Reinhart, "Veterans share their skills and training with our company, and we offer them long-term

careers that pay well. We invest in our employees and want them to advance within the organization, a point that I think veterans will appreciate. And most importantly, we put respect, integrity, and hard work first at Chesapeake. These values come naturally to veterans and help make them successful at our company."

### CORE VALUES

Chesapeake emphasizes its core values the moment a person is hired Those values include integrity and trust, respect, transparency and open communication, commercial focus, and "change leadership" – a term emphasizing innovation and continuous improvement. The core values are present on the company intranet on posters in conference rooms and individual employee offices, and on touch screens in company buildings: Chesapeake employees make decisions based on them every day.

"The core values are not something we made up one day and then decided to cover only in new employee orientation." Reinhart said. "We live and breathe these values just like vet erans lived and breathed the values of their service while they were in the military. I think our dedication to our core values is something that's attractive to veterans.'

One of the core values Reinhart developed in the Army contributed to his post-military success, "My Army experience really added to my work ethic and desire to pursue a degree and professional career," he said, "After separating from the Army, I studied mechanical engineering at West Virginia University, which led me to opportunities in the oil and gas industry."

### ADVICE FOR TRANSITIONING MILITARY

Reinhart says that servicemembers who are considering leaving the military and looking for jobs in the civilian world should make sure they convert their military experience into civilian terms. "Start by identifying industries that interest you, and research the opportunities in these fields," he said. "Translate your military resume so that it is applicable for your field of interest. At most organizations, you'll be speaking with recruiters and hiring managers that may not have military experience. It's smart to be able to put your military skills and training into

He also advises servicemembers to think a couple of steps ahead, "Look for career opportunities that offer you a growth plan," he said. "While you may have to start at the bottom of an organization, you should have a clear path toward a leadership position. You want to work for a company that values vour service, recognizes vour training, and rewards your leadership ability. I'm proud to work for a company so committed to developing its employees.'



"Every time I attend, it gives me great pride," said Hazel Welch.

Welch is supervisor – Geoscience and Reservoir Process Management – for Chesapeake, and she was referring to the company's impressive annual Veterans Day ceremony. "The ceremonies are heartfelt, and the company really goes out of its way to thank us for our service," she said. "They make sure it's a special occasion, and our supervisors personally hand us a coin every year to commemorate our service and express both their and the company's appreciation. I look forward to it every year."

Welch served in the United States Navy before entering the civilian work world. "I spent eight years total in the Navy and Navy Reserves as an engineman E-4 petty officer third class," she said. "My duties included maintenance and repair of the ship's diesel engines and boiler systems, monitoring systems and pressures, and roving patrol on Navy tugs providing security and support for ship and shore. While in the Reserves, I was also assigned to a Navy petroleum office unit where we installed and monitored alarms on tanks and bilges, tested fuel viscosity, and provided blocker and bracing support for both military and commercial cargo ships."

She parlayed her military experience into civilian employment. "Following my military career, I worked at two other oil and gas companies, Newfield Exploration and Focus Energy, before joining Chesapeake in 2002," Welch said. "My 21 years of oil and gas industry experience allowed me to wear many hats in supporting and supervisory roles serving the geosciences, production, operations, reservoir engineering, land, acquisitions and divestitures, accounting, and gas marketing teams

"The Geoscience and Reservoir Process Management team that I currently supervise aids in managing the software

and data for the geoscience, reservoir, and exploration and subsurface teams. This includes documenting systems, software, and data and process functions. We also play an integral role in technical support and training that require specialized knowledge to geoscience and reservoir applications."

The company's efforts to support veterans and current servicemembers extend well beyond the Veterans Day ceremonies. "We have partnered with Boots to Suits, providing clothing to veterans and their families transitioning to civilian careers, and The Hugs Project, providing toiletries and other items for care packages for deployed servicemembers," she said. "We've also been involved in the Wounded Warrior 5K. handing out water, and visiting veterans in VA hospitals. There's also been a project to help provide cooling bands to those servicemembers deployed in heat-extreme locations."

Welch also enjoys Troop Connect, the company's effort to give veterans an opportunity to link up with other colleagues who have military backgrounds. "Troop Connect is an online networking site and affinity group available to Chesapeake employees and their spouses," she said. "It offers an opportunity for veterans and their families to connect with each other sharing experiences, stories, photos, and tips about both military and civilian life. Troop Connect also hosts philanthropic activities to benefit veteranssupport organizations."

Welch enjoyed her time in the Navy and was looking for a similar career environment near her hometown when she left the military. "I really enjoyed the team environment and the branches of structure the military provided," she said. "After my military service, I looked for a career opportunity that would offer a culture of camaraderie and teamwork. Growing up in western Oklahoma, I was familiar

with the oil and gas industry, but had not been exposed to positions at the corporate level. I leveraged my experience with the Navy petroleum unit to find a civilian career that utilized my petroleum knowledge and offered me opportunities for career growth and leadership positions."

She said that she sees a lot of similarities between what she experienced in the Navy and the Chesapeake culture, "Both places have a supportive management structure," she said. "There's also a lot of camaraderie in our team environments, and both places emphasize safety in the workplace. Physical fitness and staying healthy are important in the military and at Chesapeake, too. We have a state-of-the-art fitness center at my location, and the company also provides lunch-and-learn classes on various health and wellness topics. Plus, both do a tremendous job recognizing

Welch offered advice for finding post-military employment. "One thing I would have done differently would be to start my civilian job search earlier relative to my targeted separation date," Welch said. "I recommend starting by researching resources and contacting career counselors and recruiters to ask for guidance. This helps in walking a person through the steps of identifying and obtaining a civilian career, and needs to be done well in advance of being discharged from the military." As for working at Chesapeake, she

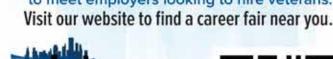
said to make sure to begin a conversa tion with a company recruiter as soon as possible. "Start by reviewing your skills and experience, and identify opportunities that would be a good fit," she said. "This might involve additional training and certifications to make your resume stand out. Also, talk to Chesapeake recruiters at hiring events, job fairs, and expos or through our veterans-only email address. Our recruiters can introduce you to new opportunities or work with you on those next steps for finding a reward ing civilian career."

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## **ENERGY AND UTILITY DIRECTORY**

The energy companies, utilities, and related organizations listed below have demonstrated their commitment to recruiting veterans by using RecruitMilitary products and services. We encourage men and women with military backgrounds who are interested in careers in the energy and/or utility sector to consider these organizations. Readers do not have to type the URL's listed below in their address bars. A PDF with live links is at http://recruitmilitary.com/search-and-employ.

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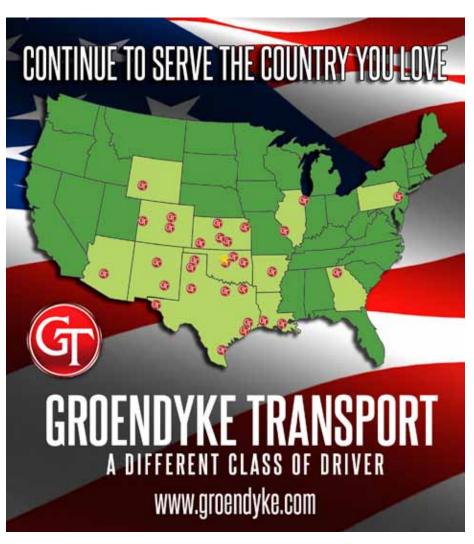














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### YOUR GUIDE TO INDUSTRIAL AND OCCUPATIONAL

## **EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS**

**by** LISA MILLER



eteran hiring leaders strongly advise job seekers to do a lot of research before applying for employment. One aspect of job research is employer-specific – check employers' websites, search the Internet for comments on the employers, talk to people who work for them, etc.

Another aspect is field-specific. What is the employment situation in the field that interests you? What are the prospects for employment? Is the field growing? Is the pay good, and will it get better?

You can think of "the field" in either of two ways — as an occupation or as an industry. So, if someone says that he or she is interested in "a job in energy," that could mean (1) working in an energy-specific occupation such as a gas measurement analyst for the gas and oil company Chesapeake Energy, or (2) working in another kind of occupation for a company that is in the energy industry — for example, as a financial analyst for the oilfield services company Schlumberger.

In my view, most job seekers should research both the occupations and the industries that interest them. And when the research turns to statistics, job seekers need to understand how certain terms and numerical codes are used

Search & Employ® cites occupational and industrial employment statistics compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a part of the United States Department of Labor. For occupational statistics, the BLS uses a system of names and numerical codes called the Standard Occupational Classification and Coding Structure (SOC). For industrial statistics, the BLS uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS).

### OCCUPATIONS

The SOC lists 23 "major groups" of occupations. The major groups are divided into 97 "minor groups"; which, in turn, are divided into 461 "broad occupations." The latter consist of 840 "detailed occupations." In the following discussion, I use energy-related occupations as examples.

The groups and occupations have six-digit codes. The highest-level codes consist of two digits other than zero, followed by four zeroes. In the next level down, a non-zero digit replaces the first zero. This pattern continues, with successive digits other than zero representing successively narrower classifications.

- First two digits: major groups, which include Construction and Extraction Occupations, SOC 47-0000.
- Third digit: minor groups. SOC 47-0000 consists of five minor groups: (1) Supervisors and Construction and Extraction Workers, SOC 47-1000; (2) Construction Trades Workers, SOC 47-2000; (3) Helpers, Construction Trades, SOC 47-3000; (4) Other Construction and Related Workers, SOC 47-4000; and (5) Extraction Workers, SOC 47-5000.
- Fourth and fifth digits: broad occupations. The minor group SOC 47-5000 consists of nine broad occupations, which include: Derrick, Rotary Drill, and Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining, SOC 47-5010; Mining Machine Operators, SOC 47-5040; and Roustabouts, Oil and Gas, SOC 47-5070.
- Sixth digit: detailed occupations. The broad occupation SOC 47-5010 consists of three detailed occupations: (1) Derrick Operators, Oil and Gas, SOC 47-5011; (2) Rotary Drill Operators, Oil and Gas, SOC 47-5012; and (3) Service Unit Operators, Oil, Gas, and Mining, SOC 47-5013.

Links to lists of SOC codes, prepared by the BLS: www.bls.gov/soc/#classification

### INDUSTRIES

NAICS classifies industries by six levels of categories. The highest two levels have no coding; the codes begin at the third level.

All NAICS codes consist of six digits. The codes of the categories in the third level consist of two digits other than zero, followed by four zeroes. The codes of the categories in the fourth level consist of three digits other than zero, followed by three zeroes. In some cases, this pattern continues down to the sixth level.

In the discussion below, I use categories in the field of energy as examples.

- The highest category consists of two "supersector groups": (1) Goods-Producing Industries and (2) Service-Providing Industries.
- The former group consists of three "supersectors": (1) Natural Resources and Mining, (2) Construction, and (3) Manufacturing.
- The Natural Resources and Mining supersector consists of two "sectors." Each has a six-digit code, but industry lists usually provide just the first two digits. The sectors are: (1) Agriculture, Forestry, Finishing, and Hunting, NAICS 110000; and (2) Mining, Quarrying, and Oil and Gas Extraction, NAICS 210000.
- The latter sector consists of three "subsectors": (1) Oil and Gas Extraction, NAICS 211000; (2) Mining (Except Oil and Gas), NAICS 212000; and (3) Support Activities for Mining, NAICS 213000.
- The Mining (Except Oil and Gas) subsector consists of three "industry groups": (1) Coal Mining, NAICS 212100; (2) Metal Ore Mining, NAICS 212200; and (3) Nonmetallic Mineral Mining and Quarrying, NAICS 212300.
- The industry group Coal Mining consists of one "NAICS industry" of the same name and an NAICS code of 212110.
- That NAICS industry Coal Mining consists of three "United States industries": (1) Bituminous Coal and Lignite Surface Mining, NAICS 212111, (2) Bituminous Coal Underground Mining, NAICS 212112; and (3) Anthracite Mining, NAICS 212113.

For a detailed list of NAICS categories and codes, visit the following site of the Bureau of the Census, a part of the U.S. Department of Commerce: www.census.gov/cgi-bin/sssd/naics/naicsrch?chart=2012

Lisa Miller is a national account executive at RecruitMilitary. Contact her at lmiller@recruitmillitary.com.

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our energy needs. There are more an 71 million residential commercial and industrial natural gas customers in the United States. Of those 92 percent – more than 68 million customers – receive their gas from members of the American Gas Association (AGA; www. aga.org). The natural gas industry supports the employment of nearly 3 million Americans

ΔGΔ founded in 1918 represents more than 200 local natural gas utilities. AGA's operations and engineering group and its government relations group work with finance. makers, federal and state regulatory bodies, environmental and consumer affairs organizations, and the public at large.

AGA recently awarded \$1 million in scholarships to 26 community and technical colleges throughout the United States, AGA anticipates that, over the next five years, more than 200 students in fields related to energy will receive funding from the scholarship program. Natural gas utilities support a wide variety of employment opportunities, including jobs in engineering; construction and maintenance of pipelines and infrastructure: measurement and regulation; pipeline, worker, and public safety management; oversight; environmental review; and customer service. The utilities also seek professionals for support and administrative functions, including call-center work, accounting, information technology, man resources, and community outreach

They also require specialists who can take on leadership positions in the industry. Specifically, there is a great need for mechanical, petroleum, and chemical engineers, engineer ing technicians, process engineers, operations in and sponsor career fairs and other employmanagers and supervisors. HVAC specialists.

The industry's need for experienced workprospect of worker retirements – as well as a tric Institute, and the National Rural Electric need to meet 21st century challenges such as

The extensive military training, strong work ethic, and leadership skills of veterans make employability of veterans for key energy po- nuclear suppliers are veterans. companies. Energy careers offer competitive | seeking to enter the industry. salaries, job stability, and opportunities for

tory of encouraging veterans to join their work forces. Those companies offer training org), based in Washington, D.C., advocates on approximately 20,000 workers by 2018. new employees advance, and they support programs developed for veterans and employees who may also serve in the reserves

Utilities throughout the nation partner with | munity colleges, and national laboratories. veteran and labor organizations, participate There are two types of companies in the



nearly 40,000 pounds of other newly mined materials. With nearly 60 percent of all U.S. electric power generated from coal and uranium, and nearly every manufactured good containing some mineral component, mining remains a vital industry.

The National Mining Association (NMA; www.nma.org) was created in 1995 through the merger of the National Coal Association (NCA) and the American Mining Congress (AMC). These two organizations have represented the mining industry since 1897 (AMC) and 1917 (NCA).

NMA, headquartered in Washington, D.C., represents the interests of mining before

cies, the judiciary, and the media. NMA has a membership of more than 300 corporations and other organizations involved in various aspects of mining. U.S. mining supports nearly two million

jobs and generates annual revenues in excess of \$100 billion. This output provides the front-end of the supply chain for many other key sectors of the economy, from electric power generation to manufacturing, medicine, electronics, and many others. Over the next 5 to 10 years, mining operations will need approximately 55,000 new employees to meet demand and to replace retiring employees.

ment events, and work with veteran-focused agencies and hiring firms to publicize job plants that generate electricity openings. In 2006, AGA formed the Center with the Nuclear Energy Institute, Edison Elec- utilities. Cooperative Association, The CEWD Troops

The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI; www.nei. behalf of nuclear technology before Congress, the White House, executive branch agencies,

(1) utilities, which operate nuclear power

(2) suppliers, which manufacture and distribers will continue to increase due to projected for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD) ute products to, and perform services for the

> American jobs – the utilities alone employ to Energy Jobs program (www.troopstoen- 62,000 people. About 13 percent of all utility ergyjobs.com) accelerates the training and workers and 11 percent of the employees of

them highly desirable employees for energy sitions, and provides a roadmap for veterans. Five new nuclear facilities are under construction, and 38 percent of the nuclear work force is eligible for retirement between 2013 and 2018, so the demand for trained employforce to fulfill its needs, the industry must hire

> applicants because it provides great pay and federal regulators, and state policy forums. NEI benefits. However, it struggles to find individumembers include all of the nuclear utilities and als qualified to fill technical positions – engilarge suppliers, along with universities, com-

> > Continued on Page 14 →

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technology, nuclear mechanic apprentices, and United States Navy nuclear personnel cancies. Non-technical employees include accountants, educators, and attorneys.

into engineering, maintenance, operator, or i of its electricity from wind overall, but certain technician positions at the power plants. And the industry is finding more veterans from all South Dakota get more than 20 percent of branches of the service available to fill the their electricity from wind. growing need for cybersecurity personnel. Veterans have also been very successful in the industry's high-tech security forces that protect these assets 24/7/365.

a first-of-a-kind agreement with the Navy, alacross 550 U.S. manufacturing facilities. lowing Navy veterans the option of being put in contact with industry recruiters to help them | ENERGY BRIEFING / transition to civilian careers. Sixty percent of all | SOLAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION separating U.S. Navy nuclear officers opted to tacted by more than 20 Fortune 500 nuclear program in its inaugural year, 20 percent found employment in the commercial nuclear energy sector, 50 percent found civilian employment efits of solar energy. in a non-nuclear career, 20 percent are still separation papers but are still in the Navy.

ENERGY BRIFFING

### NATIONAL HYDROPOWER ASSOCIATION

The National Hydropower Association (NHA; www.hydro.org) advocates on behalf of the North American hydropower community before U.S. decision-makers, the general public, and the international community. Through membership, individuals and organizations gain access to regulatory bodies, influence over energy and environmental policy, and a means to exchange valuable information within the industry.

NHA represents more than 180 companies, including both public and investor-owned **ENERGY BRIEFING** utilities, independent power producers, de- | SOLAR FOUNDATION velopers, manufacturers, environmental and engineering consultants, attorneys, and public including both federal and non-federal hygenerating facilities in the United States.

Hydropower is keeping the lights on in every region of the country. It accounts for 65.9 percent of all renewable energy generation in the United States. The U.S. hydropower industry 22 percent. Veterans constitute 9.24 percent of currently employs up to 300,000 workers, from project development to manufacturing to facilities operations and maintenance.

### ENERGY BRIEFING /

### AMERICAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION

The American Wind Energy Association

(AWEA; www.awea.org) is the national trade association for the U.S. wind industry. The intechnicians. All types of engineers, commulatory is developing more projects than ever nity college graduates with degrees in nuclear before. That means hundreds of manufacturing facilities and many new jobs.

By the end of 2012, there were 45,100 wind have the specialized training to fill those va- turbines operating across 39 states and Puerto Rico, with a capacity of 60,012 megawatts (MW) - enough to power more than 15.5 mil-Navy nuclear personnel can easily transition | lion homes. The United States gets 3.5 percent states use much more. For instance, lower and

In 2012, wind-energy companies invested \$25 billion in new projects in the United States. The wind industry employs 80,000 people across construction, development, engineering, and In 2012, the nuclear energy industry signed operations – with tens of thousands employed

The Solar Energy Industries Association participate, and every one of them was con- (SEIA; www.seia.org), founded in 1974, works with its 1,000 member companies to champion companies. Of the officers who opted into the it the use of solar energy by expanding markets, removing market barriers, strengthening the industry, and educating the public on the ben-

The U.S. solar industry celebrated a lot in looking for a position, and 10 percent have filed 2013. Photovoltaic installations – powergenerating systems that use photovoltaic (PV) cells, also known as solar cells - continued to gain. Generating capacity of PV installations increased 41 percent from 2012, reaching nearly 15 times the capacity in 2008. There were also gains in the installation of concentrating solar power (CSP) systems, which use mirrors to concentrate sunlight, producing heat that, in turn, is used to generate electric power.

> The cost to install solar fell throughout 2013, with average system prices ending the year 15 percent below the mark set at the end of 2012. At the end of 2013, the solar energy sector was

In January 2014, The Solar Foundation (www. thesolarfoundation.org) released the Napolicy, outreach, and education profession- tional Solar Jobs Census 2013. According to als. NHA members are involved in projects the report, the U.S. solar industry employed throughout the U.S. hydropower industry, 142,698 Americans in November 2013. That represented an increase 23.682 solar workers droelectric facilities. NHA members own and since September 2012, a gain of 19.9 percent. operate most of the non-federal waterpower Of those, 18,211 were hired for new jobs, while the remainder were existing workers who were assigned responsibilities pertaining to solar energy. The biggest gain was among installers - 12,500 workers were added, an increase of all solar workers – compared with 7.57 percent in the national economy

The Foundation expected solar employment to grow by 15.6 percent over the next 12 months, representing the addition of 22,240

Continued on Page 16 →

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← Continued from Page 14

solar workers. Forty-five percent of all solar establishments said that they expect to add solar | Areas with telltale signs such as hot springs employees during this period.

Wages paid by solar firms are competitive, with the average solar installer earning between \$20 (median) and \$23.63 (mean) per (mean) per hour, slightly more than the national average for electronic equipment assemblers.

### ENERGY BRIFFING

### GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ASSOCIATION

The Geothermal Energy Association (GEA; www.geo-energy.org) is a trade association composed of U.S. companies that support of jobs supported by the industry was 11,460. the expanded use of geothermal energy for Power plant or direct employment was estielectric-power generation and direct heating. The GEA advocates for public policies that will promote the development and utilization of geothermal resources, provides a forum for the industry to discuss issues and problems, encourages research and development to improve geothermal technologies, presents industry views to governmental organizations, provides assistance for the export of geothermal goods and services, compiles statistical

data about the geothermal industry, and conducts education and outreach projects.

are the most obvious sources of easily usable geothermal energy, but the heat of the earth is available everywhere and is essentially limitless Geothermal provides long-term income for hour - comparable to wages paid to skilled people with a diversity of job skills. People electricians and plumbers, and higher than av- i directly employed by the sector include welderage rates for roofers and construction work- ers, mechanics, pipe fitters, plumbers, machiners. Production and assembly workers earn ists, electricians, carpenters, construction and slightly less, averaging \$15 (median) to \$18.23 drilling equipment operators, excavators, surveyors, architects and designers, geologists, hydrologists, engineers, HVAC technicians. aquaculture and horticulture specialists, resort managers, spa developers, researchers, and government employees.

> According to an employment survey published by the GEA in 2005, the total number mated to be 4,583 full-time positions. •



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uminant is a power-generation business that includes mining, wholesale marketing and trading, and development operations. The company has more than 15,400 megawatts of generation capacity in Texas, including 2,300 MW fueled by nuclear power and 8,000 MW fueled by coal. Luminant is also the state's No. 1 miner of employs about 4,000 Luminant has receif for reclamation except the Interstate Mining sion's 2014 National Award in the coal capacity in Texas, including 2,300 MW fueled by coal.

lignite coal, with an annual production of more than 30 million tons. Additionally, the company is one of the largest purchasers of wind-generated electricity in Texas and the nation. Luminant is based in Dallas, and has other locations across Texas; the company employs about 4,000 people.

Luminant has received nearly 90 awards for reclamation excellence. These include the Interstate Mining Compact Commission's 2014 National Mine Reclamation Award in the coal category and the Railroad Commission of Texas' 2014 Coal Mining Reclamation Award.

### **LUMINANT AND VETERANS**

Veterans, reservists, and members of the National Guard account for more than 15 percent of the company's employee base. Some military occupations – such as nuclear operator for the United States Navy – have obvious counterparts in the Luminant work force. Veterans who pursued other military occupations bring valuable professional and leadership skills to the company.

To support men and women who have military backgrounds, Luminant takes part in a national mentoring program through American Corporate Partners. This program helps veterans in their career development and minimizes the time they take to transition to the civilian work force. Many of the company's employees, both military and civilian, serve as mentors to new veterans. Luminant also focuses on additional outreach efforts through regular attendance at military career fairs and other engagement opportunities.

### A VETERAN SUCCESS / BRIAN LEGG

Brian Legg retired from the United States
Navy after 20 years as a master chief petty
officer. His main responsibilities were
nuclear power operations, support, management, and training.

Legg has been an operational excellence senior analyst with Luminant since 2013. He handles human performance improvement, coaching, assessments, meeting facilitation, root cause analysis, and event fact-finding – all in the setting of a commercial power plant.

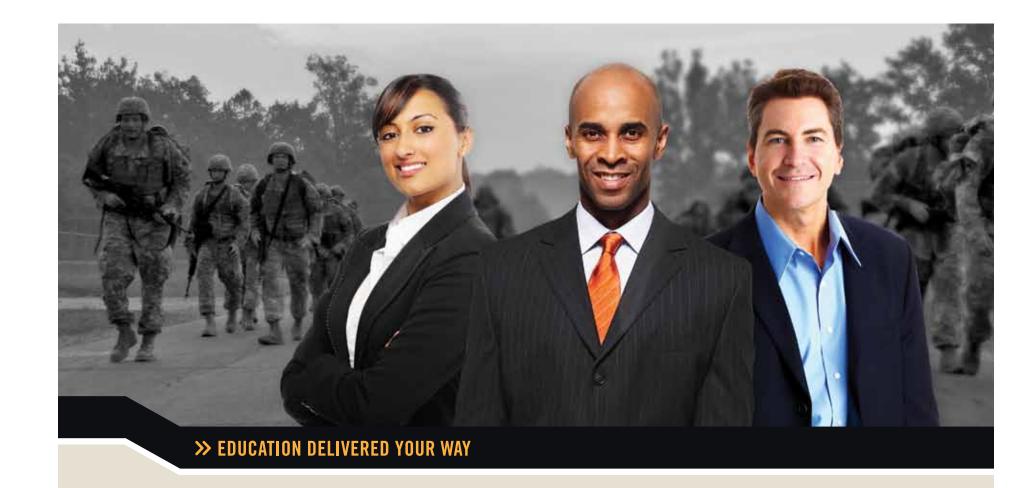
He has built and delivered a new deck of training modules for new employees; and, working with the management team, has developed a course of instruction. The course includes a two-day event that introduces the topic of human performance improvement and involves dynamic learning activities.

His military experience taught him lessons that are now paying dividends in the civilian world. "Many of my military experiences and skills were valuable in helping me find a job," Legg said. "First, leadership experience greatly helped to shape my search for a civilian job. Additionally, the lessons in human behavior gleaned from working around such a diverse group of people in the military proved valuable. Also, technical knowledge of equipment design and operations shaped my search patterns."

He recommends that servicemembers get an early start on their job hunt while still in the military. "Begin networking at least two years out in order to research companies

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and industries," he said.

Legg pointed out similarities between the military work world and civilian work world. "The technical and managerial skills from working in the military have easily transitioned into the same principles in the civilian sector," he said. "The guiding principles of the Nuclear Power Program of the Navy are easily recognized by an employer. They want an employee who will show up to work on time, be honest, and give 100 percent of their effort to the task or job at hand."

Legg said that another reason civilian companies like to hire veterans is that they know the veterans have a great work ethic. "Discipline learned in the military helped to drive my work ethic," he said. "The employer knows a veteran will give an honest day's work, regardless of external circumstances. The drive to succeed and advance is another great characteristic learned in the military. Veterans are known as self-starters – always looking for the next great tool or process to improve."

One reason Legg likes working at Luminant is that he feels his military experience is valued and respected. "Luminant is a veteranfriendly company," he said. "They recognize the contribution of veterans in the success of our country and our way of life. Previous mili- yourself to the language and expectations of tary experience is highly relied upon in our

day-to-day operations for success. Further, the company's core values - honesty and integrity, mutual respect, innovation, competitive spirit, and diversity - easily line up with the values I learned in the U.S. Navy."

Legg said that having an easily understood resume is extremely important in landing that first post-military job. "Learn to translate military speak into civilian terms, especially on your resume," he said. "When you develop your resume, make sure to ask several people to review it. Write each resume with a specific job in mind. In fact, use the job posting as a template to highlight how you meet each requirement for the job.

Other advice for veterans: "Take advantage of your education benefits to work on a degree or a certification. Target your desired industry early, and network with other veterans; learn from their mistakes and successes."

Finally, Legg recommends taking advantage of career-building resources before leaving the military. "If at all possible, try and network with current employees from the company you would like to work for and recruiters via social media, such as LinkedIn or other tools," he said. "Be ready for an interview and practice ahead of time. Make sure you take advantage of transitioning programs, which the military offers, to acclimate

### FOCUS AND CONFIDENCE

DEVON ENERGY CORPORATION www.devonenergy.com www.jobs@dvn.com

### **DEVON ENERGY CORPORATION** is an

independent oil and natural gas exploration and production company with onshore operations in the United States and Canada. Devon is a Fortune 500 company, and is headquartered in Oklahoma City.

Devon has found that veterans and members of the National Guard and reserves have experience, skills, values, and other attributes that fit its company culture. So since 2011, the company has sharpened its focus on hiring veterans. Devon now has recruiters who are dedicated to finding veterans to fill many of its openings; and company recruiters now attend more events where they can interact with veterans, military spouses, and active-duty personnel who are nearing discharge. The company also promotes openings on 14 military-related websites, and it posts positions with the Disabled Veterans Outreach Program (DVOP)

In 2013, Devon hired 71 veterans, moving the company past its goal of having 6 percent of all new hires be veterans or active servicemembers. The company's 2014 goal is 7 percent. In 2013, Devon also created a Junior Military Officer program, designed to hire transitioning officers with engineering backgrounds

The company has established a benefits program for employees who serve. Deployed employees receive full pay for three months and differential pay for the next nine. Health, dental, and vision insurance benefits continue for deployed employees and family members for 12 months

Devon also created on its intranet a virtual community for its veterans, active military personnel, and members of military families. Community activities include militaryrelated functions, celebration events, and deployments. The network also serves as a way for employees to recruit other veterans; employees ask members whether they know of veterans who qualify for company openings. The network has 170 members, with more added regularly.

Devon also recognizes its veterans at company events. For example, in a video at the company's Town Hall Meeting in May 2013, images of employees in their military uniform flashed onto the screen, along with their names and titles. The closing line of the video said it all: "This upcoming Memorial Day, be sure to thank a veteran. Showing your support is free. Their service wasn't."

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Enterprise Products

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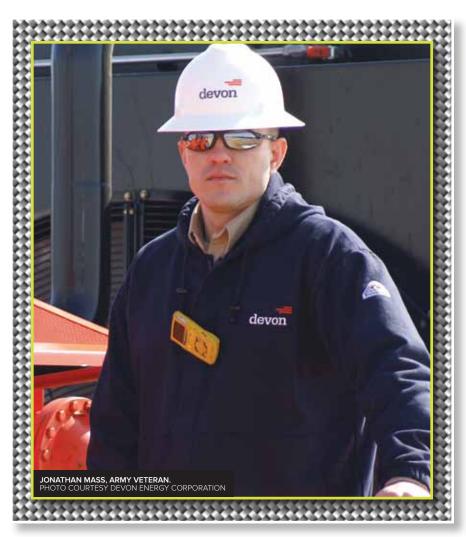
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### A VETERAN SUCCESS / JONATHAN MASS

Jonathan Mass is one of those veterans. He served for two years in the United States Army before separating as a private first class. His main responsibilities in the military were as a mechanic. Mass was responsible for servicing all heavy construction equipment and maintaining vehicle service records.

Now, Mass is an assistant production foreman at Devon Energy Corporation. He is responsible for overseeing lease operators' routes and keeping the company's oil and natural gas production numbers up, along with improving efficiency. Mass has been with the company since 2011.

The military taught Mass that he could master anything, and that knowledge paid off when he started looking for work in the civilian world. "The overall focus, confidence, and knowing that you can do anything you put your mind to are some of the key elements that helped me in finding my first job," he said. "Also, the training. I know I can learn to do anything now."

Mass encourages active-duty servicemembers to get as much out of the military as they can. "Take it all in," he said. "The core values you become skilled at will help in life to be a good citizen, neighbor, and human being. Gain as much from your military experience as possible."

He learned a lot of lessons while in the military. "The biggest would be that no matter how if the road takes you. Don't give up."

bad we think we have it, we have been through a lot worse or know of those who have given the ultimate sacrifice so that the rest of us can enjoy the freedoms and opportunities that we come across," he said

The Army also helped him develop skills and characteristics that are contributing to his success at Devon. "It helped me to be on time, have integrity, and be loyal to myself and others," Mass said. "It helped me to be a better team player, always be aware of my teammates."

He sees a lot of similarities between Devon and the Army. "Devon expresses a great appreciation for those who have served, and also stands for some of the same values and principles as those of the military," he said. "Integrity, always do the right thing, deliver results."

Mass said that staying positive is key to finding the right post-military position. "The opportunities are there," he said. "Don't get discouraged if the first one you come to doesn't work out. We all appreciate your service more than you know, and there are companies like Devon Energy that encourage veterans to become part of their team."

As for landing a job at his company, Mass said veterans and servicemembers should go hard after what they want. "Go online to Devon Energy's website, and stay on top of the career opportunities," he said. "If you see something that interests you, apply for it and see where

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## DEPENDABILITY AND ADAPTABILITY

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atterson-UTI Drilling Company LLC is the second-largest land-based drilling company in the United States; it serves major and independent oil and gas companies. The company and its subsidiaries have more than 275 marketable rigs operating primarily in the continental United States, Alaska, and western and northern Canada. Patterson-UTI Drilling has about 5,500 employees in the continental United States.

Opportunities at the company include all rig-based positions, plus jobs in operations management, trucking, maintenance, health-safety-environmental, and human resources. The company actively recruits servicemembers and veterans. Its recruiters visit from four to six military installations per month, and frequently interview and hire on the spot. In 2013, 47% of all new hires had military experience.

Hiring veterans provides the company with diverse, skilled, talented, and dependable leaders who are willing to learn, follow standard operating procedures, and adhere to the company's culture of safety. The

recruiters look for individuals who are team-oriented and performance-focused, and have excellent leadership experience and an ability to be trained. Patterson-UTI Drilling offers an opportunity to make great pay and only work half of the year due to its schedule of 7 days on, 7 days off or 14 days on and 14 days off.

Learning is one of the company's core values. Whether the veteran is new to the industry or just new to the company, its Competency Development and Learning Programs give him or her the tools for success.

A VETERAN SUCCESS / HENRY MARSHALL

Henry Marshall was a corporal in the United States Army and part of a lead fire team in combat operations. He joined Patterson-UTI Drilling in 2013, and was promoted to pad foreman after two months. A pad is an area of about 5 acres that is cleared, leveled, and surfaced over for siting one or more rigs, plus trucks and other equipment. Marshall directs pad operations during rig construction.

"In the Army, I learned to adapt and overcome in many less-than-ideal situations, including long hours, exposure to harsh weather, and the stress of making critical decisions in highly kinetic environments," Marshall said. "I also learned how to stay motivated as a leader in those situations in order

He likes working at Patterson-UTI Drilling Company because the company recognizes high achievers. "Patterson is a good place for veterans because the company rewards hard work," he said. "Good pay, excellent benefits, and plenty of room for advancement make the transition to a company like Patterson an easy choice."

to set a positive standard for my peers."

Marshall advises veterans to avoid limiting try. It's growing faster than ever."

themselves when they look for a post-military career. "First of all, do not give up on your job search," he said. "It may take some time, but if you are motivated, you will find a home. Do not limit yourself to living in a certain place or working a traditional schedule. Placing arbitrary conditions on terms of potential employment limits your opportunity. Look to the oil and gas industry. It's growing faster than ever."

### DISCIPLINE AND FLEXIBILITY

GE OIL & GAS
www.ge.com/veterans

### GE OIL & GAS PROVIDES PRODUCTS

and performs services for the oil and gas industry – from extraction to transportation to end use. In 2013, GE Oil & Gas had \$17 billion in revenue and 43,000 employees, and it operated from more than 100 sites worldwide.

The company's various initiatives to hire veterans have made headlines in recent years, but GE has been hiring veterans for decades. It currently employs more than 10,000 veterans, and is committed to hiring 1,000 veterans each year through 2016 – a total of 5,000 from 2012 to 2016. Roughly one of every 13 GE Oil & Gas employees in the United States is a veteran.

The company considers the skills veterans learned and applied in the military to be a perfect fit: teamwork, critical thinking under pressure, discipline, flexibility, loyalty, and many others. GE Oil & Gas believes veterans' experiences can translate into civilian careers at all levels of GE's varied businesses.

The company was a co-founder of Get Skills to Work, a coalition of manufacturers and educators committed to training and placing veterans in advanced manufacturing careers. In addition, the company partnered with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to support 260 veterans career fairs in the United States in 2013 – and assisted 4,200 veterans through those fairs.

GE Oil & Gas guarantees healthcare benefits for families while the employee is deployed and offers salary differential support for families of deployed employees. The company also provides special recognition and support for employees and families before and during deployment. Its Junior Officer Leadership Program (JOLP) is a leadership development effort tailored specifically for former officers. GE also created a military-specific GE Careers recruiting website to target veterans.

A VETERAN SUCCESS / DAVID SHELLER
David Sheller served as a pilot in the
United States Air Force for 11 years. He
joined GE Oil & Gas in May 2011, and is now
a subsea offshore strategic planning and
forecasting leader.

Sheller said that the connections he made in the military played an important role

in finding work after the Air Force. "My military network was extremely key to my transition to the civilian world," he said. "I also attended many different military hiring conferences and sought out professional help when drafting my resume and prepping for interviews. The military transition assistance program (TAP) was helpful, but I took every opportunity I could find to make myself more marketable."

It is also important to continue to learn. "One piece of advice I would give would be to always continue with education and development of skills," he said. "The military is an amazing place to develop leadership skills, but there isn't a lot of opportunity to learn critical business skills such as finance, sales, etc. We fall behind our civilian counterparts on the business side, but with extra training and education we can catch up very quickly."

Being a leader in the Air Force is paying off at GE Oil & Gas. "The leadership and level of responsibility I had in the military have been the most helpful to me," Sheller said. "I would also say that being mission-focused is something engrained in me and every veteran I have worked with at GE." He said that GE Oil & Gas understands the value of having an employee who served in the military. "GE is highly motivated about hiring veterans," he said. "They truly understand the value we bring to the table."

He encourages veterans never to give up on their job search. "Don't leave any stone unturned," he said. "Let's be honest, it's really tough out there. If you can't find a job immediately, start developing more skills – whether that's formal education or a trade. Pulse your personal network continuously, and don't be afraid to take a position that isn't the perfect job. Finally, don't lock yourself into a location. There are a lot of jobs out there, but maybe not exactly where you want to live. Make the transition and build your resume."

As for working at GE Oil & Gas, Sheller recommends that veterans do everything they can to get the recruiters' attention. "As the GE Veteran Network recruiting leader, my first piece of advice is to go to the GE website and apply," he said. "We are continually reviewing resumes and pushing them to hiring managers. Second, continue to develop your skills and resume. GE is looking for top military talent, and anything you can do to differentiate yourself will help you stand out." •











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### RESEARCH GUIDE

## YOUR RESEARCH GUIDE TO A CAREER IN ENERGY OR POWER

**by** MIKE ROLLINS



**ENCOURAGE JOB SEEKERS** to use this guide to learn about the energy and power segments of the economy and job opportunities in those segments. You can access each URL below through our *Search & Employ®* online PDF, which is an exact duplicate of our print magazine, and contains live links: http://recruitmilitary.com/search-and-employ.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), a part of the United States Department of Labor, publishes the *Occupational Outlook Handbook*, 2014-15 Edition (www.bls.gov/ooh), which has chapters on energy and power-generation jobs. Each chapter's main page has eight tabs: (1) Summary, (2) What They Do, (3) Work Environment, (4) How to Become One, (5) Pay, (6) Job Outlook, (7) Similar Occupations, and (8) Contacts for More Info. The links to the chapters are: www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/chemical-engineers.htm

www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/electrical-and-electronics-engineering-technicians htm

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**The U.S. Energy Information Administratio**n (EIA; www.eia.gov), a part of the United States Department of Energy, has an 8-page Sources and Uses section; each page is filled with links to statistics and reports:

www.eia.gov/petroleum/ www.eia.gov/coal/ www.eia.gov/renewable/ www.eia.gov/nuclear/ www.eia.gov/consumption/ www.eia.gov/totalenergy/

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The EIA home page has links to various reports, including Short-Term Energy Outlook, Annual Energy Outlook, International Energy Outlook, Energy Explained, and Energy in Brief.

**The American Gas Association** has a linked list of its member companies at http://www.aga.org/membercenter/Pages/MembershipDirectory-links.aspx.

**The American Petroleum Institute** (API; www.api.org) has an Oil and Natural Gas Overview tab that connects to a "Wells to Consumer Interactive Diagram" and four sets of links:

(1) Exploration and Production, with six links: (i) Onshore, (ii) Offshore, (iii) Natural Gas, (iv) Oil Sands, (v) Oil Shale, and (vi) Hydraulic Fracturing.

(2) Transportation, with three links: (i) Oil Tankers, (ii) Pipelines, and (iii) Pipeline Performance Tracking System

(3) Refining, with four links: (i) Refineries, (ii) Gasoline, (iii) Diesel, and (iv) Heating Oil.

(4) Consumer, with three links: (i) FAQ's, (ii) Use Energy Safely, and (iii) Use Energy Wisely.

An Environment, Health, and Safety Tab on the API home page connects to sets of links on:

Environmental PrinciplesClean Air

Clean WaterHealth and Safety

Air Climate Change
and Safety Energy Efficiency and Recycling

Process Safety • Environmental Performance

A membership link on the API home page connects to a page with an API Members link, and that link connects to page listing the organization's corporate members. Each listing is a live link to a corporate website, and many of those sites include careers pages.

**The American Wind Energy Association** (www.awea.org) publishes quarterly market reports. A link to the report for the third quarter of 2013 is at www.awea.org/3Q2013.

The Edison Electric Institute (EEI; www.eei.org/Pages/default.aspx), an association of investor-owned electric companies, has a member company listing at www.eei.org/about/members/uselectriccompanies/Pages/usmembercolinks.aspx. Each listing is a live link to a corporate website, and many of those sites include careers pages. Electricity 101 (www.eei.org/electricity101/Pages/default.aspx) provides an overview of the electric power industry.

**The Geothermal Energy Association** had a linked list of member companies at http://geo-energy.org/gea\_members.aspx. The "Geothermal Power Plants – USA" section (http://geo-energy.org/plants.aspx) provides information on plant locations, ownership, and capacity.

**The National Hydropower Association** has a linked list of member companies at http://www.hydro.org/about-nha/membership/list-of-members/. Its "Why Hydro?" pages have chapters titled Available, Reliable, Affordable, Sustainable, Job Creation, Other Benefits, and Broad Public Support.

**The National Mining Association** (www.nma.org) has a linked list of members at www.nma.org/index.php/member-list. On http://www.nma.org/index.php/environment-overview are links to two-page backgrounders on clean coal technology, coal ash, and a publication titled *Coal: America's Power*.

The Nuclear Energy Institute (www.nei.org) has a non-linked Executive Leadership, Committees, and Member Roster at www.nei.org/CorporateSite/media/filefolder/NEI-Membership-Roster.pdf?ext=. pdf. A careers page at www.nei.org/Careers-Education/Careers-in-the-Nuclear-Industry has links to chapters titled Be Part of a Growing Workforce, What Are Employers Looking For, and Help for Your Job Search. On www.nei.org/Careers-Education/Education-Resources are links to chapters on Nuclear Energy Training and Education Programs and Resources for Teachers and Students.

At www.nei.org/News-Media/Publications/Brochures are links to:

- Understanding Radiation: Its Effects and Benefits
- Nuclear Energy: Powering America's Future
- Nuclear Energy: Just the Facts
- Safe and Secure: Managing Used Nuclear Fuel

The Future of Energy is Nuclear . . . The Future of Energy Is You!
 At www.nei.org/Knowledge-Center/Nuclear-Statistics are links to:

- U.S. Nuclear Power Plants
- Costs: Fuel, Operation, Waste Disposal, and Life Cycle
- Environment: Emissions Prevented
- On-Site Storage of Nuclear Waste
- World Statistics

The Solar Energy Industries Association (www.seia.org) has a linked Membership Directory at www. seia.org/directory. A Solar Career Map – a concept map, not a geographical map – at wwwl.eere. energy.gov/solar/careermap/ helps job seekers explore the universe of solar-energy occupations. The map describes jobs across the industry, charts possible progression between them, and identifies the training needed to do them well.

The executive summary of the research document Solar Market Insight Report: 2013 Year in Review is at www.seia.org/research-resources/solar-market-insight-report-2013-year-review. Other SEIA publications include:

 $www.seia.org/research-resources/2013-top-10-solar-states \\ www.americasupportssolar.org$ 

To learn about the issues, the major players, and the general buzz in the energy industry, I suggest that you read magazines on the subject. Many such publications are available both in print and online, and have their own websites.

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### Access Intelligence publishes Power

www.powermag.com

BBI International publishes Ethanol Producer Magazine

www.ethanolproducer.com

Oildom Publishing Company of Texas, Inc., publishes Pipeline & Gas Journal

www.pipelineandgasjournal.com

The American Gas Association publishes American Gas

www.aga.org/Newsroom/magazine/Pages/default.aspx

The American Public Power Association publishes Public Power

www.publicpower.org/media/magazine/index.cfm?navltemNumber=21070
The American Solar Energy Society publishes Solar Today

http://solartoday.org

The Edison Electrfic Institute publishes Electric Perspectives

http://mydigimag.rrd.com/publication/frame.php?i=199099&p=&pn=&ver=flex

White Digital Media Group publishes Energy Digital

WTWH Media, LLC, publishes Windpower Engineering & Development

www.windpowerengineering.com

Zaskin Bublications Inc. published

Zackin Publications, Inc., publishes North American Windpower

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Mike Rollins is vice president of sales at RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United States Navy. Contact him at mike.rollins@recruitmilitary.com.

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= \* EDUCATION / OPPORTUNITIES \* =

a person's level of education Nobody is saying you need to go to med

Some people have said that the rising cost of and higher salaries is clear. And the value of college education is making getting a degree too expensive and not worth it in the long run. relationship between education and earning – say that is a dangerous myth that lulls some into and will be quicker to pick up new skills and not pursuing higher education. In fact, the best evidence says that a college degree leads to a lifetime earnings increase of up to \$340,000, even after subtracting the cost of that higher education. That return apparently applies to all undergraduate majors, not just those specifically tied to expected higher earnings.

The medical field has been very much in the news because it offers a lot of opportunities, job satisfaction, and job security. There are opportunities for those without college degrees, tial. Medical jobs that do not require a college degree pay between \$22,000 and \$42,000 per recession hit everybody in one way or anyear in most areas of the country. The pay rises other, people without college degrees tended to between \$42,000 and \$62,000 for people with just a two-year college degree. Advanced

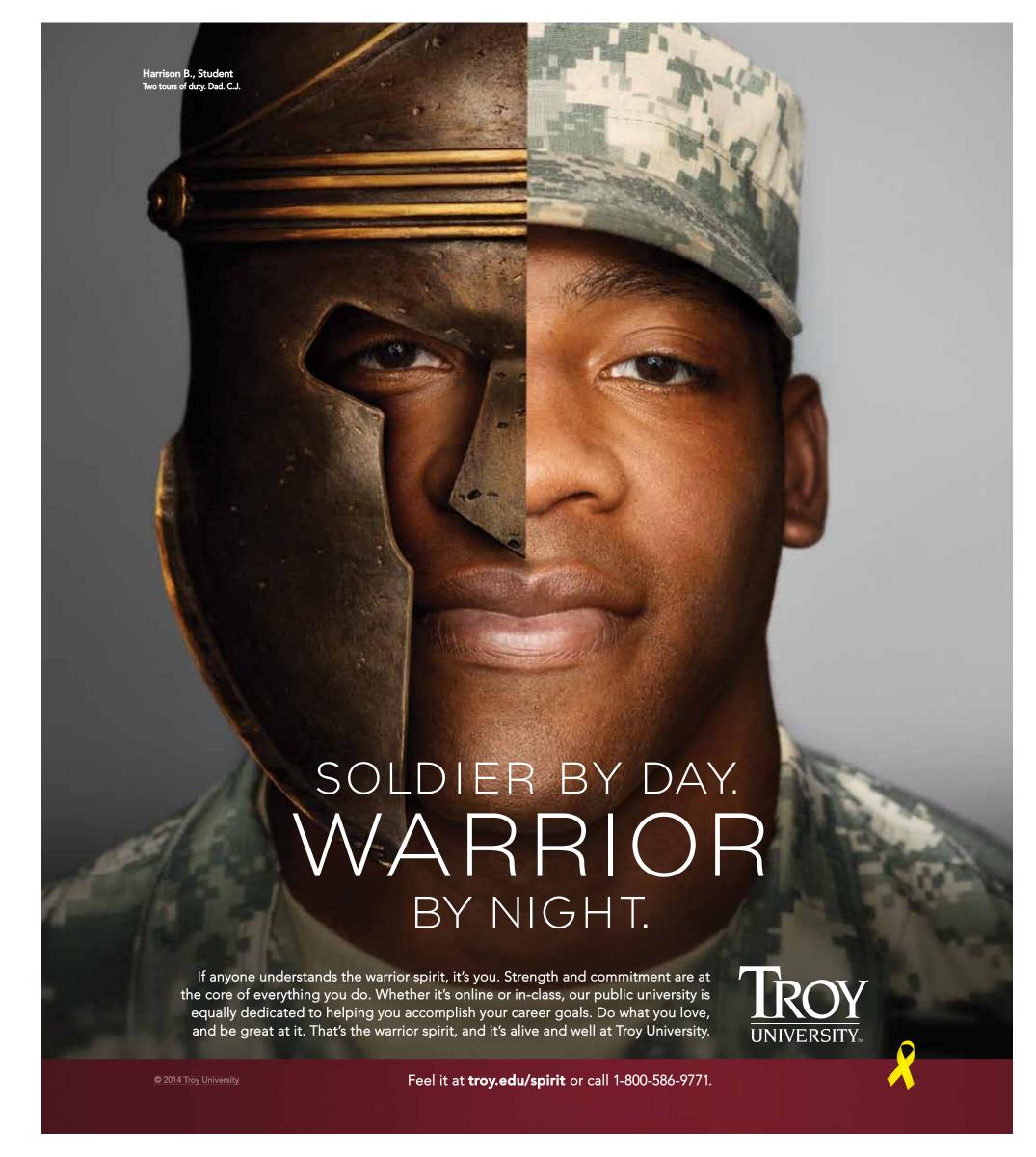
So it is well worth noting that \( \) nursing positions that usually require a master's the word "learn" contains the degree pay upwards of \$95,000. And we all know that doctors – who spend a lot of time in direct correlation between school – make the big bucks.

and his or her level of income. school, but the connection between education education goes beyond what students read in education. Students also have the advantage of learning from others - not just professors while they are "hitting the books."

> The phrase "knowledge is power" might be overused, but it is true. People who have the not find success in this world. While the recent

> > Continued on Page 32 →





← Continued from Page 30

to be hit the hardest. So education, at the very least, can be a shield against economic adversity

Sometimes that education comes from onthe-job training and independent study, but more and more employers are looking for college degrees when it comes to hiring for open positions. That is especially true now that there are more ways than ever to get a college degree. The traditional way is to learn on a college campus with ivy on the academic buildings and Frisbee on the quad. But as the non-traditional student becomes more traditional, colleges of all levels have learned to adapt. Colleges are offering more and more classes online and at night so that people who work day jobs can further their education at their own pace

It is hard to put a precise dollar value on education. But, at the very least, earning a degree beyond high school widens one's range of career opportunities and chances for advancement. Many of the jobs that did not require a college degree before the recent recession now have that stipulation; many jobs that required a bachelor's degree now call for a master's degree

Companies can afford to be pickier when it comes to hiring. They are asking for the best, the brightest, and the most educated.

### MANY OPTIONS

There are education opportunities out there for everybody, from people who want to earn a certification for a trade to those who want to go back to college – or go there for the first time – to earn a college degree. The traditional college is not for everyone, and options are available. For example, students do not have to be in a classroom to hear their professors lecture or even to take tests. The students can watch recorded lectures in the comfort of their own homes and on their own schedules.

Here are some of the major options: Full-time, on-campus learning at a college or university. The most traditional route, this option enables the student to get the full college experience. He or she

attends most, if not all, classes in a traditional classroom, and may even live on or near the

Many people call this option a four-year program, but an increasing number of students are taking longer than four years because they are working jobs on the side or are pursuing double majors. Others, of course, take longer because they go on to earn graduate degrees. The advantages of this option are the avail-

ability of professors and classroom learning. This is also more social interaction; and in some academic tracks, group work

is encouraged, if not necessary. The social aspect extends beyond the classroom as well. The traditional campus usually offers a lot of activities for students: attending football and basketball games, joining fraternities, sororities, and clubs, etc.

This is the best option for students who want the more traditional experience and students whose academic pursuits require a lot of lab time. For example, people who are studying to become physicians – and even pre-med students – will spend much of their time in labs. On the downside, this is usually the most expensive option and may put students in a debt they would rather avoid.

Part-time/evening on-campus learning at a college or university This option lets students take on their academic load with smaller bites, financially and time-wise. It is popular with students who have obligations beyond school – part-time and/or full-time iobs, families, etc. Instead of taking a full academic load each semester, students can take one or two classes in the classroom on their

Many colleges and universities offer these classes at night so that students who also work typical 9-to-5 jobs can take the classes they need. Some schools also offer Saturday classes. The path to graduation is longer on

own schedules

this route, but this approach is also easier to maintain for older students because of their often extensive obligations.

One option in this context is distance learning. The professor and a group of students are in one classroom; other students watch the professor lecture on screens in other classrooms. This option helps students who have longer commutes to the main campus save time and money by going to a closer location. The main plus to this option is that it offers more flexibility The downside is that it usually takes longer to complete academic requirements

Online learning via a college or university that also offers on-campus learning. Some academic institutions that have oncampus classrooms have extended

their reach in recent years. To be more flexible for today's students, they have started to include online classes. These classes enable the students to view lectures and even take exams in their own homes or anywhere there is an Internet connection. Not every class has this option, and some classes are offered with both the online option and the more typical in-classroom option.

Online learning is no longer a one-way process. In many cases, the schools require

Continued on Page 34 →



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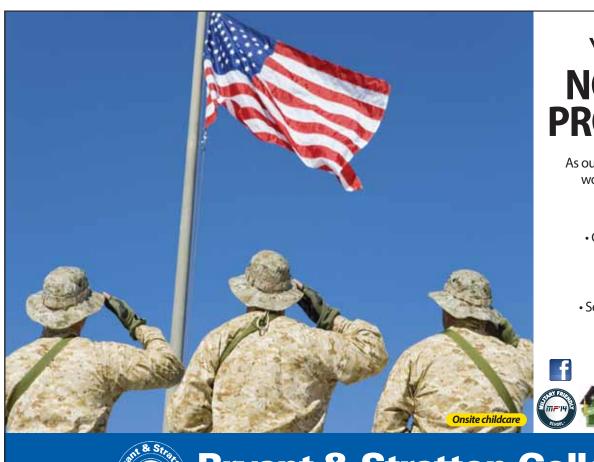
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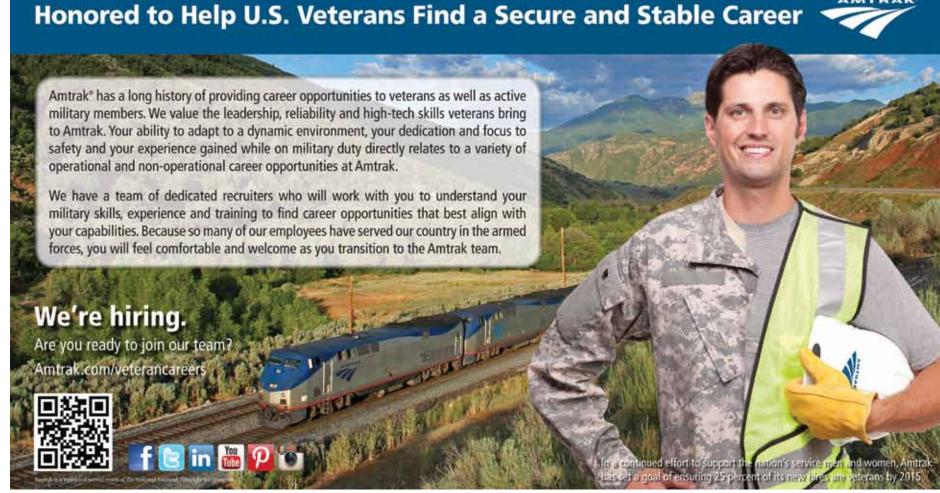
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← Continued from Page 32

that the students mount cameras on their computers so that the professors can observe the students during exams and can see the students when they ask questions. Skype and other technologies make communicating visually over the Internet much easier.

The advantage of this approach is that it offers a lot of flexibility: a student can take classes online when possible and in the classroom when necessary. However, it usually requires much self-discipline on the part of the student. And even with the modern technology, there is not a lot of student-professor interaction.

### Learning at a trade or technical institution.

This is the ideal approach for those students who are less interested in historically academic pursuits, but instead would prefer to focus on a trade they can master and then develop into a career. There is still classroom work, and some trade or technical institutions have basic academics such as English and history, but the focus is on the trade.

The schools start with the basics before moving on to the more detailed course work, enabling the students to progress at their individual rates. In many of their courses, the schools do not measure the progress of a student by means of classes such as freshman, sophomore, etc. Instead, the schools issue certifications – the student must pass certain

qualifying tests for each level of certification.

The better schools offer the latest technology. In fact, this technology may surpass the technology at the student's eventual work site – requiring him/her to learn to work with older technology on the job. But he or she will be ready when the employer "catches up" technologically.

These programs also have flexible schedules because many of the students are also working full-time jobs on top of going to school.

Union apprenticeship program. This is a good career choice for students who like to work with their hands and are willing to serve an apprenticeship for up to five years, depending on the trade. Students are encouraged to have good problem-solving skills and the ability to work collaboratively with a team. The apprenticeships are usually paid, so students earn while they learn. After completing the apprenticeship, the student usually has the option of taking a job where he or she served as an apprentice.



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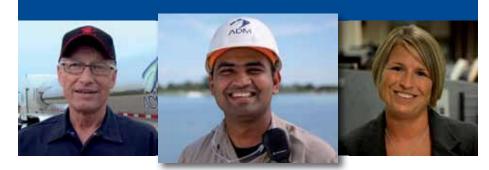
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### RESEARCH GUIDE

## YOUR RESEARCH GUIDE TO EDUCATION

**by** rick jones



**ENCOURAGE JOB SEEKERS** to use this guide to evaluate their continuing-education options and to learn about financing that may be available to them. You can access each URL below through our *Search & Employ®* online PDF, which is an exact duplicate of our print magazine, and contains live links: http://recruitmilitary.com/search-and-employ.

### HBILL

The United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) site www.benefits.va.gov/gibill is the home for educational benefits provided by the department. A School Decision Resources page (www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school\_decision.asp) has links to:

GI Bill Comparison Tool to help one find a school and determine his or

- her GI Bill benefits while attending it

  Guide to choosing a school
- The President's Principles of Excellence program, and participating schools
- Gl Bill Comparison Chart
- College Affordability and Transparency Center College Scorecard, a site of the U.S. Department of Education
- Choosing a College 8 Questions to ask, a PDF published by the Federal Trade Commission
- Paying for College: Navigate the Noise, a site of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau

### MAJOR BENEFITS PROGRAMS

### Post 9-11 GI Bill

### www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/post911\_gibill.asp

This program provides financial support for education and housing to eligible individuals with at least 90 days of aggregate active-duty service after September 10, 2001, or individuals discharged with a service-connected disability after 30 days. An individual must have received an honorable discharge to be eligible. Approved assistance includes correspondence training, entrepreneurship training, flight training, independent and distance learning, institutions of higher learning undergraduate and graduate degrees, licensing and certification reimbursement, vocational/technical training, national testing reimbursement, on-the-job training, tuition assistance top-up, tutorial assistance, and accelerated payments. The program provides up to 36 months of education benefits, generally payable for 15 years following release from active duty. Some servicemembers may also transfer unused GI Bill benefits to dependents. Post-9/11 benefits are sometime referred to as Chapter 33 benefits because the bill is defined in Chapter 33 of Title 38 of the United States Code. Pamphlet: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/pamphlets/ch33\_pamphlet.pdf

### Montgomery GI Bill Active Duty

### MGIB-AD; www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/mgib\_ad.asp

MGIB-AD provides up to 36 months of education benefits to veterans and servicemembers who have at least two years of active duty. Assistance may be used for college degree and certificate programs, technical or vocational courses, flight training, apprenticeships or on-the-job training, high-tech training, licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training, certain entrance examinations, and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. Benefits are generally payable for 10 years following release from honorable active service. MGIB-AD is also commonly known as Chapter 30. Pamphlet: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/pamphlets/ch30\_pamphlet.pdf

### Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve

### MGIB-SR; www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/mgib\_sr.asp

MGIB-SR provides up to 36 months of education and training benefits to eligible members of the Selected Reserve, including the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve, Air Force Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, Coast Guard Reserve, Army National Guard, and Air National Guard. Assistance may be used for college degree and certificate programs, co-op training, technical or vocational courses, flight training, apprenticeships or on-the-job training, high-tech training, licensing and certification tests, entrepreneurship training, certain entrance examinations, and correspondence courses. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. Eligibility normally ends on the day an individual leaves the Selected Reserve. MGIB-SR is also known as Chapter 1606 because it is defined in that chapter of Title 10 of the United States Code. Pamphlet: www.benefits. va.qov/qibill/docs/pamphlets/ch1606\_pamphlet.pdf

### Dependents' Educational Assistance

### ${\sf DEA; www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/survivor\_dependent\_assistance.asp}$

This program provides education and training opportunities to eligible dependents of veterans who are permanently and totally disabled due to a service-related condition or of veterans who died while on active duty as a result of a service-related condition. Benefits may be used for degree and certificate programs, apprenticeship, and on-the-job training. A spouse may take a correspondence course. Remedial, deficiency, and refresher courses may be approved under certain circumstances. DEA is also known as Chapter 35. Pamphlet: www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/docs/pamphlets/ch35\_pamphlet\_2.pdf

### CHOOSING A COLLEGE MAJOR

ACT, Inc., which produces and conducts the ACT® Test, a college entrance examination, has an interactive concept map, called the Map of College Majors, at www.act.org/majorsmap. The map shows the relative conceptual locations – not geographical locations of schools – of 80 popular majors in 10 groups:

(1) arts, (2) business, (3) communications, (4) community services, (5) computer and information sciences, (6) education, (7) engineering and technology, (8) medicine and allied health, (9) science and math, and (10) social studies.

ACT bases the map on the interests of thousands of college students. The map helps a prospective student see similarities and differences between majors, based on student preferences for activities involving data, ideas, people, and things. Some examples:

- Data: Recording, verifying, transmitting, and organizing facts.
- Ideas: Creating, discovering, analyzing, and interpreting.
- People: Helping, informing, persuading, entertaining, motivating, and directing.
- Things: Repairing, transporting, servicing, and producing.

To use the map, the prospective student selects a group to see all of the majors in that group. Then, he or she selects a major to see information about that major, including topics of study, degrees available, related occupations, and related majors. And the 80 majors on the map are linked to information on more than 200 additional majors. Similar majors are close to one another on the map. So, as the ACT site says, "if you find majors that look good to you, then nearby majors may be worth a look as well."

The World-of-Work Map (www.act.org/world/world.html) shows how occupations relate to one another, based on work tasks. The map has the form of a pie chart, with occupational categories printed on the various "Slices." Clicking on a category takes the user to a linked list of occupations. Clicking on a link opens a window describing work tasks; listing average salary, number of workers, and expected growth; describing entry requirements; and listing related occupations and related majors.

### CHOOSING A COLLEGE AND A MAJOR

The College Board, which produces and conducts the SAT Test, a college entrance examination, has a set of interactive tools called BigFutureTM, which can help a prospective student navigate the college planning process. Veterans will find the College Search program (https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/college-search) especially valuable. The program offers the user 3,963 college options. The user chooses search filters in 10 categories: (1) test scores and selectivity, (2) type of school, (3) location, (4) campus and housing, (5) majors and learning environment, (6) sports and activities, (7) academic credit, (8) paying, (9) support services, and (10) diversity. The program then displays a list of colleges.

The For Veterans page (https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-started/for-veterans) contains the following links:

- Scholarships for Veterans
- For Veterans: How to Find a College That's Right for You
- CLEP (College-Level Examination Program®) Credit for Members of the Military
- Colleges with Services for Veterans
- For Veterans: Paying for College
- Veterans and College Admission: FAQ's

The Major and Career Search page (https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors-careers) presents:

- 8 categories of majors: (1) arts and humanities, (2) business, (3) health and medicine, (4) multi-/interdisciplinary studies, (5) public and social services, (6) science, math, and technology, (7) social sciences, and (8) trades and personal services.
- 7 categories of careers: (1) arts, entertainment, and sports, (2) business, (3) health and medicine, (4) media and social sciences, (5) public and social services, (6) science, math, and technology, and (7) trades and personal services.

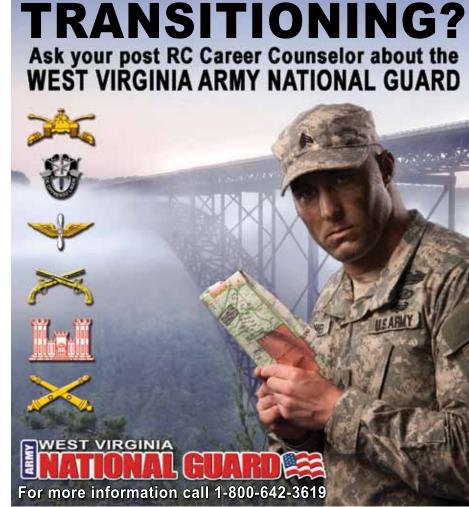
Clicking on a category produces a list of subcategories, and the user can click on a subcategory to navigate to links to profiles. For example, in the science, math, and technology category of "major" are 11 subcategories: (1) agriculture and related sciences, (2) architecture and planning, (3) biological and biomedical sciences, (4) communications technologies, (5) computer and information sciences, (6) engineering, (7) engineering technologies, (8) math and statistics, (9) natural resources and conservation, (10) physical sciences, and (11) science technologies. Clicking on the engineering subcategory leads to profiles of over 40 kinds of engineering – including, for example, this one for industrial engineering: https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/majors/engineering-industrial-engineering.

### ON-CAMPUS SUPPORT

The Student Veterans Association (SVA; www.studentveterans.org) helps bring student veterans together and provides them with resources, support, and advocacy to help them succeed in higher education and after graduation. SVA has more than 950 chapter affiliates. A chapter map and directory is at http://www.studentveterans.org/on-campus-veteran-support-group/directory.html.�

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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MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

- → www.mspp.edu/
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he Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology (MSPP), located in Newton, Massachusetts (Greater Boston), provides graduate educational services in clinical psychology, school psychology, forensic psychology, counseling psychology, organizational psychology, and executive coaching. MSPP has more than 200 employees, nearly 700 students, and an annual operating budget of \$21 million. The school's training programs equip students to work as consultants and clinicians in schools, courts, hospitals, rehabilitation centers, military and veteran organizations, detox and recovery programs, community mental health centers, and businesses; and in private practice with children, adults, and families.

MSPP's Train Vets to Treat Vets (TVTV) program, supported by the Massachusetts legislature, recruits veterans to become mental health providers with both the necessary clinical skills and an insider awareness of the psychological and relational needs of servicemembers, vet- profit institutions around the country. erans, and their families. MSPP also works with : MSPP is a great fit for veterans who are inter- : branches of the service.



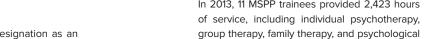
vulnerable populations in Costa Rica, Ecuador, and other Spanish-speaking countries. In addition, students and faculty conduct service-learning work in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, several times each year. MSPP students receive field education in more than 300 hospitals, veterans centers, clinics, schools, businesses, and non-

ested in serving other veterans via applications of clinical, counseling, school, and organizational psychology. Furthermore, the school has built a learning environment that allows for considerable unit-building among veterans in the school, and which recognizes and builds on veterans' maturity, experience, and character strengths. MSPP has recruited student-veterans from all created new field placement sites and supplied

### ABOUT THE TVTV PROGRAM

In 2009, MSPP applied for designation as an Institution of Higher Learning under the Yellow Ribbon Program of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, and was approved. In 2010, MSPP issued a report to the Massachusetts Department of Veterans Services (DVS) about creating a program of behavioral-health career development for returning veterans; and in July 2011, DVS awarded grant money for the Train Vets to Treat Vets program.

- In August 2013, MSPP rolled out TVTV, with these goals:
- To formalize and expand upon MSPP's existing programming for and about veterans. To this end, a fully operational academic concentration, Military and Veteran Psychology, is now in place and accepting students.
- To utilize current MSPP student-veterans to reach out to and mentor returning veterans who may be interested in a behavioral health career. In 2013, MSPP student-veterans reached out to 78 veterans, representing all branches of the military. Many of those students have applied and been accepted into the school.
- To expand direct services to at-risk and homeless veterans as part of MSPP's Field Education program. To meet this commitment, MSPP the required licensed mental health supervision.



In the summer of 2013, the TVTV program became a permanent line item in the Massachusetts budget. All veterans at the school now receive scholarship money to help with their education expenses. MSPP continues to work on its curriculum to educate graduate students on the needs of veterans, especially recent returnees. The school has already expanded the quality and quantity of mental health services available to the area veteran population. Student-veterans at MSPP have opportunities for direct field education experiences with veterans; they also participate in experiential learning, service learning, and veteran-related research at the school.

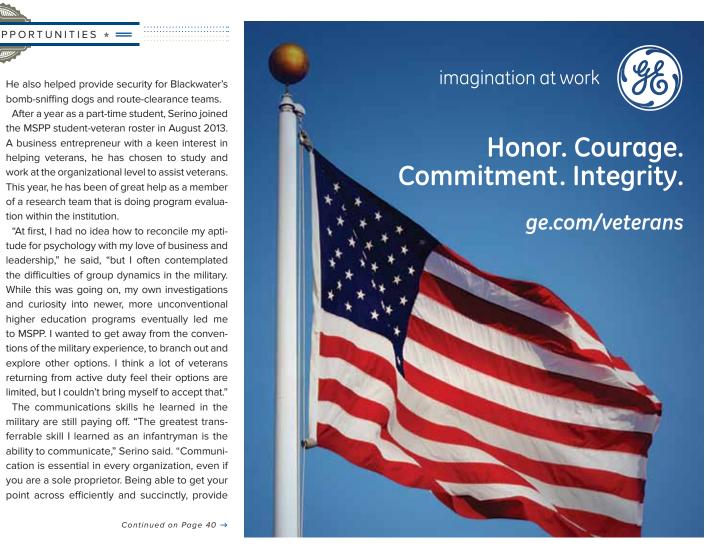
testing to veterans and their families.

### A STUDENT-VETERAN\_ Arthur Serino III

Arthur Serino III, an Army veteran, is pursuing a master's degree in organizational psychology at MSPP. Serino enlisted in the Army in March 2001. As an infantry rifleman/grenadier specialist E-4, he deployed to Iraq from May 2007 to May 2008. His duties included conducting personal security details (PSD) for Ryan Crocker, then U.S. ambassador to Iraq, and other dignitaries; securing perimeter around the principal area of operation; and assisting a private government contractor, Blackwater, with similar security work.

In 2013, 11 MSPP trainees provided 2,423 hours | He also helped provide security for Blackwater's bomb-sniffing dogs and route-clearance teams. After a year as a part-time student, Serino joined the MSPP student-veteran roster in August 2013. A business entrepreneur with a keen interest in helping veterans, he has chosen to study and work at the organizational level to assist veterans. This year, he has been of great help as a member of a research team that is doing program evaluation within the institution.

> "At first. I had no idea how to reconcile my aptitude for psychology with my love of business and leadership," he said, "but I often contemplated the difficulties of group dynamics in the military. While this was going on, my own investigations and curiosity into newer, more unconventional higher education programs eventually led me to MSPP. I wanted to get away from the conventions of the military experience, to branch out and explore other options. I think a lot of veterans returning from active duty feel their options are limited, but I couldn't bring myself to accept that." The communications skills he learned in the military are still paying off. "The greatest transferrable skill I learned as an infantryman is the



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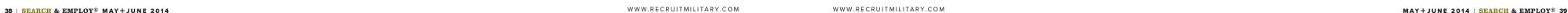
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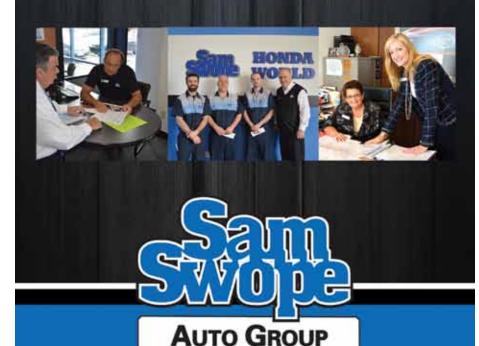


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← Continued from Page 39

critical feedback, and accept feedback without

and think critically in the absence of orders will help leaders and followers build trust in you," he said "The best way to handle a problem is headon, with careful planning, and the ability to adjust the mission based on the situation and new information. Learning occurs at the boundary of our comfort zone, and few adults have been pushed to that boundary so much as those who served in combat. The realization of that principle strengthened my reverence for lifelong learning."

Serino believes that MSPP is built for veteran success. "MSPP is a good fit for veterans because vets generally possess character traits necessary for success here - namely, a strong work ethic, the ability to be coached, and conscientiousness," he said. "Shortly after coming to MSPP, I realized I would be welcomed for the perspective I could contribute, as diversity is not just an espoused value here but an enacted virtue. The mutual support and camaraderie I enjoy with other members of the military/veteran community is akin to that but sometimes you must go out of your way to which I felt with my fellow soldiers while serving."

He is thankful that his ideas are heard at MSPP. "The leadership here is strong, purpose-driven, focused, and motivational, showing comfort with ambiguity and respect for every member of the group," he said. "I have always felt that my contrimy resume ever could."

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multiple research facilities. The campuses have ready access to the social, cultural, and recreational facilities of Brisbane – the capital of Queensland – and the attraction of Australia's top surfside tourist destination. Griffith University is a great fit for veterans who want to use their Post-9/11 GI Bill to study abroad.

Together. Griffith University and Veterans Global Education Services (VGES) have created a special program for veterans. The program allows veterans reduced tuition deposits, waivers of application fees, and scholarship opportunities. VGES is a nonprofit higher education resource that helps veterans explore overseas and domestic degree options. Its mission covers the entire United States and several foreign helped more than 20 veterans transition from the military to overseas study.

Jason Scholte, the CEO of VGES and an Army veteran. Scholte served in the United States than 1,000 veterans in March 2014 alone.

butions are valued and acknowledged, whether or not they are implemented. Moreover, I feel empowered to be a force for positive change in the putting up emotional barriers enriches all types lives of veterans and their loved ones, many of whom have not fared as well as I, following their Tackling a problem head-on – something else experiences in theatre. There is no question that that Serino learned in the military – is also help- MSPP amplifies our abilities to help each other, ing now. "The ability to take initiative on your own but I can also say that I personally feel empowered, respected, and valued - and it's feelings that drive people to action, not information.'

> Sering said the excellent staff also make a big difference. "For transitioning or veteran military trying to get a position with MSPP, whether it be as student, faculty, or external, I would offer that this is one of the most military-friendly organizations you could ever work with, and it is staffed by brilliant people who truly care about each other,"

> He also recommends never giving up. "When I first applied for the master's in organizational psychology program, I was rejected on the premclinical psychology," Serino said. "In truth, it was. But I knew the program was a good fit for me, and asked to take classes as a non-matriculated student. After performing well, my second application was gladly accepted.

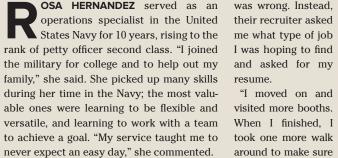
> at all shy about doing this. I don't care whether I come in through the front door or the back door. as long as I get a seat at the table - and that attitude has done more to advance me in life than

Army from 1992 till 2005 before being medically discharged as a sergeant due to injuries sustained while deployed to Afghanistan with the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne).

He has worked in higher education for more than 15 years. In 2010, he began searching for alternatives that would help set himself apart from other professionals in his field. At that time he learned that he could have used his GI Bill benefits to study in a foreign country. He had already earned his MBA, so he quickly recognized that thousands of other veterans likely would not know they could use their benefits to travel and study abroad. For two years, Scholte worked to build a program that would help veterans explore degree options overseas

In 2012, Griffith University's Pro Vice Chancellor (International) Chris Madden, a Vietnam veteran with the Australian Defence Force, invited Scholte to become Griffith's direct representative in the United States to work exclusively with transitioning and veteran military. In early 2014. Scholte realized his dream of expanding the outreach he was doing when he was offered countries. In the past year, the program has the role of CEO for VGES. Now Scholte is travelling to RecruitMilitary job fairs across the United States, advising transitioning military personnel "Our goal is to take a logical and pragmatic veterans, and their spouses on the opportunities approach when advising our veterans," said to study at institutions such as Griffith University. VGES provided information and advice to more

## Same Day Hiring



She firmly believes those skills make veterans great hires for any type of situation. "Veterans make good employees because we already have the skills that employers are looking for," she said. "We also have leadership training to better command our subordinates. Companies should hire veterans because we are highly retainable."

When she was in need of a new career herself, Hernandez signed up to attend a RecruitMilitary career fair in Jacksonville in 2012. She had researched several companies ahead of time; and when she was looking for their booths at the fair, she was approached by a recruiter from the University of South Florida (USF). "I thought they wanted me to attend their school," she recalled, "but I Katie Becker is the staff writer at RecruitMilitary

pulled aside by the dean of the same school. perfect for the opening they had, and asked

her name again. It was the dean asking if she could interview on the spot. She was hired later that day, and is now enjoying her role as a receptionist at USF.

reer transition to be patient. "The first job may not be the best job. Do your research before you go to a job fair and know who you are talking to."



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### VETERAN FRANCHISE PARTICIPATION

## **HOW'S IT GOING?**



and ownership among veterans has been advancing rapidly, according to 2013 Veterans in Franchising: A Progress Report, published last November by the International ranchise Association (IFA; www.franchise.

org). Franchise Busi-

ranchise employment

ness Review (www.franchisebusinessreview.com), a franchise market-research firm based in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, published the report, which is available at http://www.vetfran.com/wpcontent/uploads/2013/11/VetFranStudy\_2013.pdf. mercial services (7%).

The report cites results of Operation Enduring Opportunity, a campaign of the IFA's VetFran Strategic Initiative (www.vetfran.com). The IFA ees or recruit as franchisees 80,000 veterans, wounded warriors, and military spouses by the end of 2014.

The survey, conducted last October, found that, Jasen Williams is vice president of agency since 2011:

 146,365 veterans found employment across the 1,159 participating businesses, which jasen@recruitmilitary.com.

included franchisors, franchisees, and franchise supplier companies

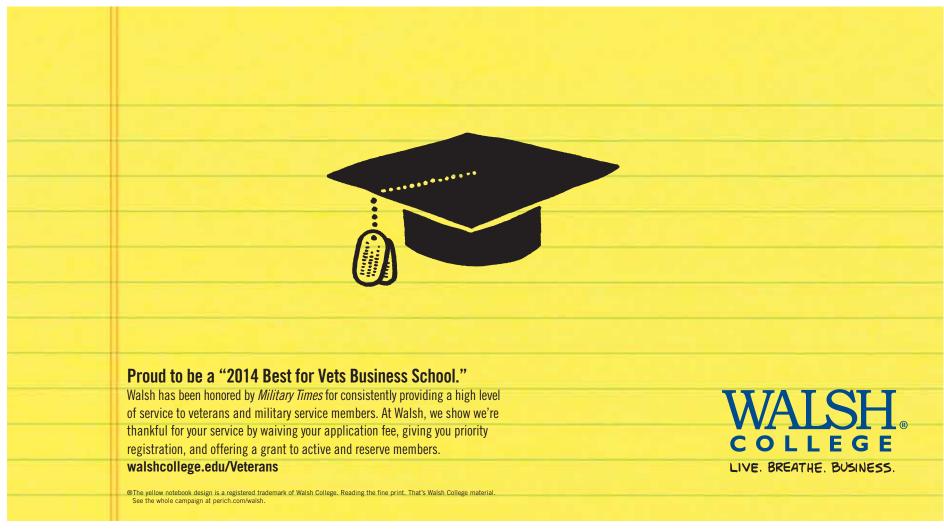
• 5,192 veterans bought franchises

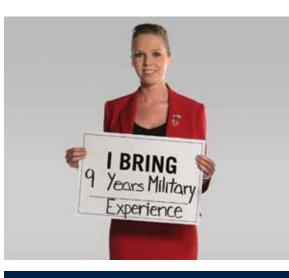
Based on the survey samples, Franchise Business Review estimated that more than 200,000 veterans were hired as employees or recruited as new franchisees during a 34-month period. Other key findings:

- 32% of franchisees surveyed indicated that they had hired at least one veteran or spouse of a veteran since 2011
- 97% of franchisors surveyed said that veterans are a good fit as franchisees within their companies
- 84% of franchisors surveyed indicated that they have specific programs in place for recruiting veterans for franchisees
- The most popular industry sectors for the hiring of veterans/spouses by franchisees were food (33%), automotive (20%), residential/home services (10%), general services (9%), and com-

In September 2012, Franchise Business Review completed a survey of 739 veteran franchisees that had bought franchises during the previous two launched the campaign in 2011 to hire as employ- years. The most popular sectors were automotive (16%), general services (15%), food (15%), residential/ home services (11%), and business services (8%). •

> relations at RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. Contact him at









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Satisfaction





## Why Veterans Make **FRANtastic Franchise Owners**

require strong leadership and quick resolution.

When they were serving, these men and women

were tasked with working under pressure to lead

their comrades to successful missions. Owning a

franchise is much the same – but this time, a busi-

Veterans possess an unrivalled ability to un-

reacted effectively by sticking to the plan and

swiftly and effectively ness is on the line. So, when a problem arises, as

That world is a perfect environment for veterans

**by** david E. Omholt



**ON THE BATTLEFIELD,** home turf: franchise ownership. The franchise military personnel must business world has its share of obstacles that draw upon numerous skills to complete their missions successfully and survive. As tenacious leaders who performed under pressure. veterans know what it takes to work

to achieve project targets and delegate effec- when an employee quits on the job during peak tively. They also understand the importance of business hours, a veteran will know to stay calm, following policies and protocol – a detail- and execute decisions quickly, ensure that the rest of procedure-oriented way of living. And they pos- the team is working as efficiently as possible, and sess an unparalleled can-do and play-to-win attitude, along with hard-wired problem-solving a positive experience skills and a burning desire to come out on top. But above all this is their versatility – taking on STICKING TO THE PLAN multiple roles, rolling up their sleeves and getting dirty, and rallying the troops to be the best they derstand and follow processes, procedures, can be, fostering a dynamic team environment and protocol. When lives were on the line, they and a tight camaraderie.

After honorably serving their country, veter- executing based on what they were trained to ans can apply those skills to a new mission on do. In running a small business, the same mind-

must stay on a calculated course navigated by a captain who follows the sailing orders. This mindset quickly becomes second nature to cess of the bigger picture. Drawing upon their military-taught skills, veterans are able to stay on course.

### WHATEVER IT TAKES

A detail-oriented approach to life makes veterans successful franchise owners. And a cando attitude, along with a ferociously competitive

but to surrender any ounce of doubt they had in themselves to possess the self-belief needed to survive. Because of this, veterans have great the small stuff is directly correlated to the suc- — a combination that enables them to harness their confidence and use it to solve problems when many others would give up. So if sales are dipping at a franchise, a veteran owner can find the solution: keep that self-belief, and maintain a positive attitude to holster the staff

> Perhaps it is this positive attitude that enables veterans to be so versatile, wearing more than one hat – from CEO to front-line worker – to get

set must apply - right from the time you ac-spirit, puts them over the top in taking out their the job done. From their experience serving in quire a franchise, your franchise-business ship competition. In the military, they had no choice the military, veterans are used to doing what- DIRECTION AND INSPIRATION

In transitioning from serving one's country to owning a franchise, a veteran naturally applies veterans, who easily understand that sweating problem-solving skills and a high emotional IQ this whatever-it-takes understanding to the trust and camaraderie are everything: often business. Take the scenario of a frozen-yogurt inventory, managing the staff, taking orders, meeting with clients, and conducting interviews. An added benefit: The staff, seeing the owner perform all of these tasks with ease, will aspire to work in the same way, with the same tireless

Most important, however, is a veteran's ability to use teamwork skills, honed through military service, in a business setting. In the military away on duty tours for months on end and away franchisee, for example: In the run of a day, the from their families, veterans had to make the owner could be ordering product, maintaining best of their circumstances by forming strong, meaningful bonds with those serving alongside them. Through these life-changing experiences, veterans came to understand how to build a healthy team in arguably the toughest work environment on earth, while being able to rally the troops even under the toughest of circumstances. They developed and used superb oral and written communication skills to direct and inspire those around them, keep everyone upto-date on important situations, and maintain high morale among the ranks.

In running franchises, veterans promote a positive work environment - one that will attract and retain the best talent. By setting an example, veterans build long-term loyalty and dedication, resulting in strong teams that execute tasks efficiently.

Veterans can enter many different fields of work after retiring from serving their country. But in my view, franchise ownership simply makes the most sense because it provides them with a seamless transition that capitalizes on what they do best: lead, follow procedure, use their can-do attitude to succeed, capitalize on their versatility, and use their teamwork skills to help achieve big goals.

With a bright future for the franchise industry and the American economy on the upswing, franchise ownership is a solid financial investment with relatively low risk. For a veteran looking to make the next move in his/her life, buying a franchise could be the best decision to make - enabling the veteran to keep using the skills that made for a successful military career, while experiencing all the rewards and benefits that come with owning a small business. •

David E. Omholt is chief executive officer of eAuth.com, The Entrepreneur Authority (TEA) 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 on the subject of franchising on talk shows, at industry conferences, and on college campuses. He has been both a franchise licensor and a franchise licensee. Omholt is available at 866-246-2884 or domholt@eAuth.com.



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## Find a Job FRIDAY:

### **REAL-TIME JOB SOLUTIONS FOR VETERANS**



BY KATIE BECKER

ometimes the simplest ideas are the ones that work the best, and "Find a Job Friday" is a phenomenon that has really caught on in RecruitMilitary's Facebook community www.facebook.com/recruitmilitary. Here's a Q&A with Liz Wheeler, RecruitMilitary's social media messaging guru and the brains and the muscle behind "Find a Job

### Please tell the readers of Search & Employ® about your education and background.

I have a bachelor's degree in political science with a minor in homeland security from Penn State University. I started working for RecruitMilitary in August 2011, and transitioned to full time in 2013. My background is a combination of politics, government, and marketing. In the spring of 2013, I co-wrote a book about being a young political activist, and I've served as a commissioner on the Board of Zoning Appeals in my hometown. I've also consulted for social marketing campaigns for several major brands.

## How did you come up with the idea for "Find a Job Friday"?

When I took over social media for RecruitMilitary, I wanted to provide our social communities with access to our job-seeking resources and specific job opportunities. As our audience grew, I received more and more questions about the availability of certain types of jobs in certain locations. So I thought. a gold mine just waiting to be tapped. I have "What better way to connect veterans directly with jobs they're interested in than live-answering their requests with postings from our job board?" It's turned out to be a huge hit!

### how it works

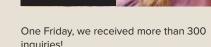
Every Friday from 12:00 noon until 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time on the "Find a Job Friday" Facebook post, veterans can post the kind of job they're interested in, plus the location where they want to work. I then run a search on our job board for those criteria and send back a link to opportunities that match each request...all in real-time!

### Which social media sites host "Find a Job Friday"?

"Find a Job Friday" itself happens on Facebook. Sometimes we promote it on LinkedIn



I usually receive anywhere from 65 to 150.



### Do any fields in particular have a heavy presence?

There are a lot of requests for logistics positions, law enforcement or security-related positions, and healthcare jobs - but the variety is always interesting, too. We regularly have requests for intelligence analysts, pilots, high level management, and many more.

### What other specials have you run on social media – and do you have any

We recently started conducting webinars that are veteran candidate-centric. The latest one, presented at the end of March, was called "7 Tips for Veterans to Get a Job through a Career Fair." We will be doing more of these soon, with other advice, tips, guidance, and information for veterans in their iob searches. Interested veterans should stay tuned to our social media pages – listed on page 1 of Search & Employ® – for dates and topics of upcoming webinars.

### How did you get into the world of social media?

Accidentally! I knew how powerful social media could be in other areas – politics, news, marketing, etc. When I started working at RecruitMilitary and saw how powerful their mission was, I knew their social media was experience in writing, and took some courses in college on marketing and communication, and I've studied messaging strategies

### What has been the growth of Recruit-Military's presence on social media since you began as social media manager?

Our Facebook audience has grown from 26,000 to 68,000 in the past  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years. Our Twitter presence has grown from 2,200 to 5.300. Our LinkedIn presence has grown to be nearly 5,000 – but those are just the numbers. Socially, we engage veterans and employers on a daily basis about everything from job opportunities to tips and advice; and anything related to their time in the service and their transition to a civilian career. We're very easy to contact through our social channels, we enjoy engaging with our audience, and we know it brings great value both to them and to getting the word out about our resources.

Katie Becker is the staff writer at RecruitMilitary.



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## Communication **VETERAN SUCCESS STORY** and Leadership

BY KATIE BECKER

eran talent is one of the best ways to meet hiring goals. APi is the parent company of 40 fire-protection, industrial, and specialty construction businesses in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. This billion-dollar company has nearly 9,000 of a JMO candidate is someone with an MBA employees; it is one of the largest union sub-

contractors and owns the second largest ters are in New Brighton, Minnesota, near the Twin Cities.

One of APi's methods for finding veterans is to attend RecruitMilitary job fairs. Les Larson, the company's director of corporate recruiting, said that these events are their "meat and potatoes" for finding veteran talent. He frequently tells recruiters from APi's subsidiary businesses, "If you attend, you will get all the candidates you need."

The August 2013 event at TCF Bank said, "We brought the home team, and had 20 to 30 people in our booth area. We wanted to make sure every veteran had

someone to talk to when they stopped by." About eight of APi's 40 companies attended. Larson finds these events "very well-organized." He said that "the venue was great, and it was in a good location - everyone can get to first Certified Emergency Response Force-

in attendance.'

2011, brought in 138 veterans in 2012, and has gia. She conducted sweeps for WMD materials been keeping pace ever since.

Much of the company's veteran-centric focus comes from its owner and chairman, Lee R. Anderson, Sr., a 1961 graduate of West Point. In fact, at the Minneapolis event, Anderson ed her for the Norwegian Exchange (NOREX) personally escorted candidates to the comprogram. She went to Norway for a two-week, pany booth.

APi Group serves on the Veterans Employment Advisory Council (VEAC) for Hiring Our and even learning Norwegian culture. "It was Heroes, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's pro- by far one of the most amazing experiences I gram to help veterans and military spouses find meaningful employment. In 2011, during the Chamber's first national event to recog-U.S. Chamber of Commerce building.

gram for junior military officers (JMO's). This European Command (EUCOM). yearlong training program includes sevenweek rotations to APi companies all over the country. The company monitors the candihandled the administrative, medical, and dental dates throughout the program, and places needs of 170 soldiers, while also tackling roles them with the company's businesses in po- as acting facility maintainer and armory funds sitions ranging from service manager all the manager. Since the career fair, she has transway up to president.

"JMO's are a blank slate - in a good way," filling companies with vet- said Larson. "They are disciplined, they know how to use resources and accomplish the task at hand. Veterans have character, honor, a strong work ethic, and teamwork. Give us a good person, and we can shape them.'

Larson pointed out that the civilian equivalent who has worked for a major corporation for five years. "The military gives us a head start. group of fire-protection businesses in It would take six months to find civilian candithe United States. Company headquardates who have what JMO's bring to the table."

### A VETERAN SUCCESS JENIFER LIPS

Jenifer Lips follows RecruitMilitary on Facebook and LinkedIn, and those sites are where she learned about the career fair in Minneapolis. She attended – but she almost missed visiting the APi Group booth. "I saw it on the way out," she said, "and felt I needed to make as many contacts as possible to have the most success. I wound up talking to the owner's son - without realizing it at the time."

Lins relayed her interest in working in either Stadium in Minneapolis – which APi co- the human resources or administrative fields, sponsored - was no exception. Larson and gave him her resume. He described an opening for an executive administrative assistant to the chief financial officer, and said he thought she would be a good fit. "I was called in for an interview the next week, and given an offer letter that day," she said.

Lips served as an E-6 in the Minnesota Army National Guard for 10½ years. She was on the it. There are always a lot of great candidates Package (CERF-P) team in Pennsylvania, and served on the 4th Weapons of Mass Destruc-APi Group companies hired 119 veterans in tion Civil Support Team (WMD-CST) in Georprior to events including NASCAR races and even the Super Bowl.

Her service also gave her an opportunity to travel. The Minnesota National Guard selectwinter-warfare training program of complete immersion - wearing Norwegian uniforms have had in the military," Lips noted.

She also served as the liaison between the 12 Americans and 12 Croatians comprising nize top veteran-friendly companies, the Lee https://doi.org/10.1001/j.com/10.1001/j.c Anderson Veterans Center was unveiled in the As the mobilization NCO, she handled predeployment activities, organized trainings, APi offers a Leadership Development Pro- site reconnaissance, and coordination with

Her last assignment was as a readiness NCO for the 434th Chemical Company, where she ferred to the Minnesota Air National Guard and

continues to serve on a part-time basis.

Lips' military experience equipped her with skills in many areas, but she said, "The most valuable lessons I learned in the course of my service were always putting people first, effective communication, and leadership - all of which are inextricably intertwined and integral to success."

She notes that her biggest challenge in looking for a civilian job was trying to translate the skills listed on her resume. "When I attended Recruit-Military's career fair and was able to present myself in person, I had much greater success," she said. She did this by telling recruiters about her work ethic and by describing her experience working in both administrative and human resources capacities. She also pointed out, "I'm an experienced leader and an excellent communicator. All of these skills will work together to make me the right fit for your company."

Lips believes veterans have a number of qualities that make them great hires. "They are disciplined, hard workers with the ability to make decisions in high-stress environments. They are also used to working with a wide demographic of individuals." She urges other veterans: "Don't downplay your skills. The military equips us with a plethora of abilities we don't even realize we have – we just have to figure out what those skills are and how to present them."

Katie Becker is the staff writer at RecruitMilitary.

Logical Hire for

the Railroad

THE MECHANICAL SKILLS THAT MARK DeGRAW LEARNED IN THE MARINES HAVE SERVED HIM WELL. HE SERVED FROM 2000 TO 2008, WORKING IN MOTOR TRANS-PORTATION AND RISING TO THE RANK OF SERGEANT. HE LEARNED TO REPAIR AND MAINTAIN MOTORS, ENGINES, AND MACHINERY. HE DEPLOYED THREE TIMES TO IRAQ,

in March 2003. Later, DeGraw worked for in Topeka, Kansas. several defense contractors, training soldiers in Africa and repairing mine-resistant ambush protected vehicles (MRAP's) used by special forces in Iraq.

closer to home. So in September 2013, he for your family." in Kansas City. BNSF Railway was at the top have been "extremely helpful" in making for a defense contractor overseas." of his list of companies to speak with at the his transition seamless. He believes veterevent. But a long line of candidates waited in ans make logical hires for the railroad infront of him. So DeGraw simply handed over dustry. "It's an easy transition. The military social networks, including LinkedIn. DeGraw

ence that BNSF wanted. A few days later, lously and in the right order. And the milihe got a call asking him to apply for a spe- tary personnel I work with are very thankful cific position online.

including the initial invasion that began working at BNSF as a machinist apprentice

What drew him to BNSF? Benefits, "I knew they had one of the best blue collar retire-Then he decided to explore opportunities the Midwest. You can make a good living who mentored me, and I stayed in touch

As it turned out, DeGraw had the experisistency. It's important to do things meticufor the jobs they have."

The result? In December 2013, he began His advice? Never burn any bridge, and at RecruitMilitary.

ment plans in the country," he said, "and the stay in touch. "I was always a hard worker pay scale is phenomenal – especially for  $\,$  in the Marines. There was a staff sergeant with him after he retired. He helped me

He encourages veterans to build and use a network of military contacts through various his resume and asked one of the recruiters is a lot like the railroad industry - there is plans to put his GI Bill benefits to use in an an emphasis on safety, teamwork, and con-apprenticeship with BNSF. "You can't beat it. The benefits allow me to learn a job that I'm also getting paid to do." •

Katie Becker is the staff writer



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www.alcoa.com/careers

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### **OPPORTUNITY EXPOS**

### **b**v Robert Walker



am pleased to announce that RecruitMilitary has scheduled 32 Veteran Opportunity Expos for the first half of 2015. So active-duty servicemembers who are going to transition

out in the next few months can put those events on their personal calendars.

Our Expos are all-veteran job fairs that are free to men and women who are transitioning from active duty to civilian life, veterans who already have civilian work experience, members of the National Guard and reserve forces, and military spouses and other family members. We have been producing Expos since 2006. By the end of June 2015, we will have produced more than 590 events in over

The Expos are well worth attending. In postevent surveys for our Expos in 2013, employers reported that, as a result of exhibiting at the events, they expected to make an average of 2.7 job offers per employer per event.

There are opportunities all over the room at our events – job opportunities with employers, opportunities to go into business for yourself with franchisors that value your ability to get the job done, and opportunities to advance your education via on-campus and online learning.

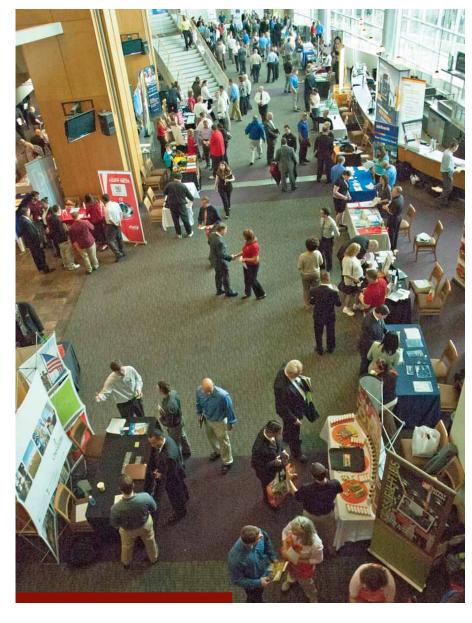
How do you find the opportunities that are best for you? Below are some tips on interviewing with recruiters at a military-tocivilian job fair

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 iacket.

**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 different departments.

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



## **JOB FAIRS SCHEDULED THROUGH JUNE 2015**

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 continuingeducation 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

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 franchi sors' booths—one 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 "storv" 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 RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United States Army.

### **RecruitMilitary** VETERAN OPPORTUNITY EXPOS

### RECRUIT ILITARY® HIRING HEROES



U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCI

Selected events will be designated Hiring Our Her 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 He veteran hiring career fair initiative, which was launched in March 2011

### **MAY 2014**

- Oakland
- 15 Norfolk
- 22 New York
- 29 Baltimore 29 Cincinnati

WHO WILL BE THERE?

The Overall Scene

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

exhibitor "booths"— tables and various

sent the exhibitors will talk with you.

WHO WILL BE THE EXHIBITORS? A wide variety of exhibitors attend our

events — corporate employers, law-en-

forcement agencies and other government

employers, franchisors, and both campus-

based and online educational institutions.

The corporate employers are engaged

energy production, manufacturing, security,

transportation and logistics, engineering,

healthcare, finance, insurance, information

Their recruiters interview for all kinds of

jobs: salaried, hourly, and part-time; profes-

At most booths, at most events, no. The

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.

events run for four hours – from 11:00 a.m.

technology, retail, and home services, to

name just a few industries.

WILL THE LINES BE LONG?

sional and technical.

in construction, defense contracting,

Expo area, you will see many closely spaced

displays. At the booths, recruiters who repre-

### 8 San Antonio

## OCTOBER 2014

## 2 Baltimore

## **JUNE 2014** 5 Charlotte





### JULY 2014

10 Indianapolis 10 St. Louis

### AUGUST 2014

- 7 Houston Minneapolis
- 14 Nashville
- 21 Richmond

### 28 Tampa SEPTEMBER 2014

- 4 Oklahoma City
- 11 San Antonio
- 25 Birmingham 25 Kansas City

### Oakland

- 24 Columbus 24 Philadelphia

- 14 San Diego

### 28 Raleigh

- 4 Boston
- 11 Denver
- 18 New Orleans 18 New York

### Cincinnati

- - 16 Phoenix
    - 16 Pittsburgh 22 Dallas

30 Austin

23 Portland 26 Atlanta 30 Atlanta

- 6 Jacksonville
- 17 Dallas Philadelphia St. Louis

### Washington 13 Charlotte

20 Norfolk 20 Seattle **DECEMBER 2014** 

13 Los Angeles

4 Houston

11 Orlando

Indianapolis San Diego 11 Las Vegas

### JANUARY 2015

- 15 San Antonio 15 Tampa
- 22 Oklahoma City 29 Atlanta

12 Miami

- Chicago
  - 26 Dallas 26 San Diego MARCH 2015
  - - 5 Philadelphia 12 Louisville 19 Raleigh 26 Jacksonville

19 Phoenix

### 26 Houston **NOVEMBER 2014**

- APRIL 2015 2 Chicago
- 9 Orlando 16 Denver
- 16 Austin

### MAY 2015

- 7 Oakland
- 7 San Antonio 14 Norfolk
- 21 New York 28 Baltimore

25 Washington

25 Atlanta

### 28 Cincinnati JUNE 2015

- 4 Charlotte
- 4 Seattle 11 Oklahoma City 18 Los Angeles

### **FEBRUARY 2015**

5 New Orleans

## But I need to tell you this: Sometimes, a long line forms at one or two booths when an event

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?

opens, and the lines are still there when the

### 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 675,000+ veteran job seekers, which is continually being searched by employers.

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

# Looking for a nursing opportunity that fits your lifestyle?

Then you'll love Florida Hospital Waterman. Just a short drive north of Orlando, Florida in Tavares, Florida Hospital Waterman offers advanced healthcare in an inviting community atmosphere. Our 269-bed, state of the art facility is built with nurses in mind.

Currently seeking Seasonal and Full time Registered Nurses for Med/Surg, PCU, ICU, Ortho, Oncology, and ER. Florida RN license and BLS/ACLS required. Competitive pay, relocation assistance and commitment bonus offered!



Apply online at www.fhwat.org or email your resume directly to the Nurse Recruiter. Ryan.cuti@ahss.org (352)253-3696



Visit: www.capeair.com/jobs for information on career opportunities at Cape Air!

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Nearly half of MSC's workforce is former military. That's because we require similar skill sets and expertise as we provide logistical support for the U.S. military. Our civilian careers provide job security combined with hands-on training and career advancement opportunities. This combination will take your career further, faster than you thought possible. When you include federal benefits, paid leave, a flexible career path and the camaraderie that comes with life at sea ... now you have a career worth keeping. Learn how our opportunities can align with your military background by contacting one of our recruiters. Take Command of Your Career.®

www.sealiftcommand.com

877-291-9910

info@sealiftcommand.com



MSC is an equal opportunity employer and a drug-free workplace.

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Take Command of Your Career®

## SPECIAL SECTION for VETERAN HIRING LEADERS

### EDITOR'S NOTE

On March 24, 2014, the Office of Federal Contract
Compliance Programs (OFCCP), a part of the United States Department of Labor,
published revised regulations that affect the hiring of veterans by federal contractors.
This "Final Rule" updated the regulations implementing the Vietnam Era Veterans'
Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974 (VEVRAA), which (1) prohibits federal contractors
and subcontractors from discriminating in employment against protected veterans,
and (2) requires these employers to take affirmative action to recruit, hire, promote,
and retain these veterans.

Because many employers that use RecruitMilitary products and services are federal contractors, and because compliance with the new regulations can become rather complex, Search & Employ® asked the human resources consulting and technology firm Berkshire Associates, Inc., for an update. The following article is based on a letter that Berkshire Associates prepared for its clients.

# NOW WHAT?

BY CINDY KARROW, SPHR

T'S HERE...the beginning of the Transitional Period. This is the much anticipated, and sometimes dreaded, period of time after March 24, 2014. The revised Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) regulations for Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act (VEVRAA) are in effect. The date has come and gone, so what now? What should contractors have in place, and what should they be working on? What is OFCCP doing now, and what might we see on the horizon? Let's explore these and many other important questions.

First, what should be in place right now? The changes for Section 503 and VEVRAA that federal contractors should have in place are:

- Updated Equal Opportunity Clause in applicable subcontracts
- Updated EEO / AA Policy Statement
- Updated EEO tagline for advertisements
   Additional notice to State Employment
   Service Offices
- Other administrative changes

The Equal Opportunity Clause (EO Clause) is language that must appear in any contract with a subcontractor, supplier, or vendor if your company buys goods or services from another company that are necessary to fulfill your contract with a federal government agency. That supplier must be notified they may be subject to the affirmative action regulations. This clause has always been a requirement in subcontracts and purchase orders; however, the new regulations originally added two new paragraphs to emphasize Section 503 and VEVRAA obligations. However, there is a recent development on this regulation change - OFCCP will allow the two new additional paragraphs to be combined into one. Here is Berkshire's suggested sample language for the EO Statement; note the second paragraph is in bold:

Affirmative Action Notice: vendors and subcontractors are notified that they may be subject to the provisions of: 41 CFR Section 60-300.5(a); 41 CFR Section 60-741.5(a); 41 CFR Section 60-1.4(a) and (c); 41 CFR Section 60-1.7(a); 48 CFR Section 52.222-54(e); and 29 CFR Part 471, Appendix A to Subpart A with respect to affirmative action program and posting requirements.

This contractor and subcontractor shall abide by the requirements of 41 CFR §§ 60-300.5(a) and 60-741.5(a). These regulations prohibit discrimination against qualified individuals on the basis of protected veteran status or disability, and require affirmative action by covered prime contractors and subcontractors to employ and advance in employment qualified protected veterans and individuals with disabilities.

The Equal Opportunity Policy / Affirmative Action Statement is used to inform employees and applicants of the company's policy of non-discrimination. Your statement should now indicate the top U.S. Executive's support for the affirmative action plan (AAP). This statement should be reaffirmed annually, dated, and signed by the top level U.S. Executive of the company. Here are some other things you should know about the EEO Statement:

- It must be physically posted in all company work locations where applicants and employees can view it
- You may also post it on your Intranet site so remote or telecommuting employees can view it; however, the company must provide computers or ensure in some way employees can access and view the statement

- Include it in your employee handbook
   Applicants must also be able to view
   the statement we recommend including it on your Careers page so it is one of the first items that applicants see
- Notify union officials of your policy if you have a Collective Bargaining Agreement and request their cooperation
- Notify recruitment sources and partners of your policy

The EEO tagline is used in employment advertising, job postings, brochures, and other recruitment items. This tagline has been updated to ensure everyone who sees it understands what the tagline means. Abbreviations such as: M/F/D/V are no longer allowed. The updated tagline shows the company is welcoming and inclusive. Below is a suggestion for the new tagline:

[Company Name] is an Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, or protected veteran status.

Under the transition we are in, here are a few things your company should now be doing:

- Your company should continue to post job openings with the State Employment Service Delivery System (ESDS) as required by VEVRAA. By now you should be aware of the method by which each ESDS wants to receive job postings from your company. This method can vary from state to state. If you have posted jobs with ESDS since March 24, you have informed each ESDS your company is a federal contractor and you desire priority referrals of protected veterans. In this notification, you supplied information about each hiring location, contact information for the person responsible for hiring at each location, and contact information for any third party vendor that you use for recruiting. There is a process in place to provide updates when this information changes
- There are a variety of other administrative and process updates that have been made. You should have updated websites and electronic and print documents that reference "covered veterans," changing them to read "protected veterans." The term "other protected veterans" has been updated to "active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans." You should be using the term "individual with a disability" or "worker with a disability" in place of "disabled person." A process needs to be in place to retain all required records and documents for three years rather than two. And you should be

reviewing and responding to requests for reasonable accommodation. Your online application system most likely includes contact information for job seekers who may require an accommodation to be able to complete the application process.

• Finally, you have communicated these changes, and those that are forthcoming, to executives and managers who can provide you with resources in the months to come. Recruiters, hiring managers, and supervisors should now be aware of the accommodation process to follow when an applicant or employee requests assistance or an accommodation because of a disability.

One more word about this Transitional Period...OFCCP has made it clear in its series of webinars they understand this is a lot of change, and some contractors may have difficulty meeting the deadlines for the changes. Some of the changes require cooperation from technical resources, vendors, and others in the company outside of HR. Document your efforts to comply so it is evident you are moving toward compliance.

There is still much to be done, but you

have made it over the first hurdle. During the next few months, you should be planning and initiating changes for the next phase of the regulations updates – to your first AAP following March 24. Berkshire recommends you begin implementing the voluntary selfidentification solicitation changes as soon as possible. Research and seek recruitment sources to provide you with qualified protected veterans and individuals with disabilities (IWD's). Begin documenting activities and assessing these efforts. And keep checking OFCCP's website for updates to the Frequently Asked Questions and additional resources posted. On Friday March 21, OFCCP announced a new outreach and recruitment database to help contractors find qualified IWD's and veterans. The Disability and Community Resources Directory can be found on its website at www.dol-esa. gov/errd/resources.html, along with other resources to assist with implementation of these rules at www.dol.gov/ofccp/regs/compliance/Resources.htm.

Cindy Karrow, Senior Professional in Human Resources (SPHR), is senior human resources consultant at Berkshire Associates, Inc., a human resources consulting and technology firm offering solutions in affirmative action, application management, compensation, diversity, and professional training. Berkshire Associates is based in Columbia, Maryland. Contact Ms. Karrow at CindyK@berkshireassociates com

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## **SPECIAL SECTION** for VETERAN HIRING LEADERS

### **EDITORIAL** themes 2014 **Transportation & Logistics** JUL | AUG Manufacturing Healthcare Retail Law Enforcement NOV | DEC IT & Telecom 2015 Defense & Aerospace JAN | FEB Financial Services MAR | APR Franchising **Energy & Utilities Education Opportunities**

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

### **DATABASE SNAPSHOT**

Database of registered job seekers at www.recruitmilitary.com on March 25, 2014

615,129 / Registered searchable candidates

### RANK

91.7% / Enlisted personnel 7.3% / Commissioned Officers 0.9% / Warrant Officers

### ETHNICITY

60.5% / Caucasian 22.8% / African-American 9.6% / Hispanio

2.2% / Asian 1.1% / Native American 3.9% / Other

### GENDER

83.6% / Men

### **ACTIVE SECURITY CLEARANCES**

**3,423** / Top Secret

**10,479** / Top Secret/SCI *Individual has a* Top Secret Clearance and is cleared to access nsitive Compartmentalized Information (SCI) **120** / L-DOE Clearance granted by the United States Department of Energy

**183** / Q-DOE Clearance granted by the United States Department of Energy; more difficult to obtain than L-DOE

34 / ISSA Industrial Security Staff Approve

### HIGHEST EDUCATION LEVEL

22.2% / High School 25.9% / Beyond High School 7.8% / Professional Certificate

13.5% / Associate's Degree 21.5% / Bachelor's Degree 8.7% / Master's Degree 0.4% / Doctor's Degree **SERVICE BRANCH** 

21.5% / Navy

Mashable said this about us: "RecruitMili-

other factors.

## We Can Help Fed Contractors **Reach Hiring Benchmarks**

by BETH FJELSTUL Federal Con-

the United States has published a requlation that affects the hiring of veterans by federal contractors. "Final Rule." published on March

24, 2014, updates the regulations implementing the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974 (VEVRAA), which (1) prohibits federal contractors and subcontractors from discriminating in employment against

employers to take affirmative action to recruit hire, promote, and retain these veterans. One new requirement calls for contractors to establish annual hiring benchmarks for protect-

ed veterans, using either of two methods: (1) set the benchmark equal to the national percentage of veterans in the civilian labor force, or (2) use certain data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS), plus other factors reflecting the contractor's unique hiring circumstances. For details on the Final Rule, visit: http://www.dol. gov/ofccp/regs/compliance/vevraa.htm.

RecruitMilitary is all about helping employers attract, hire, appreciate, and retain high-quality veteran talent. So if you are a federal contractor and you have established your benchmark

> in accordance with the Final Rule, we can help you reach it via one or more of our military-to-civilian recruitment products - including all-veteran job fairs, a subscription to our huge database of veteran job seekers, targeted email marketing, custom recruiting by our own staff of recruiters, advertising in the magazine you are reading, on our website, and in our jobs newsletter

Beth Fielstul is a national account executive at RecruitMilitary. Contact her at beth@recruitmilitary.com.

tary's overarching purpose is to provide veter-

an job-seekers with tools and information they

need while looking for employment. Whether

it's sharing job listings, answering questions,

or aggregating relevant news stories. RM pays

attention to what its followers want and need.

amazing things for veterans in need of profes-

sional advice and assistance. . . . On Twitter

they are really rocking customer service, as

they respond to every query, comment, and

piece of fan advice. They have great success

do best — connecting with their fans with

The final winner of the Most Social Smal

Business competition - and our congratula-

tions to - Sevenly (www.sevenly.org), an ap-

Christine Ruble is director of client marketing at RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United

poise, passion, and persistence."

pleased to announce stories and should continue to do what they

States Air Force.

"RecruitMilitary is a great business that does

### RECORD ADVERTISING

WE ARE PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE that this issue o Search & Employ® has broken our advertising record. with 40 pages of paid advertising. The old record was 36¾ pages in our September/October 2012 issue. The also the thickest ever – breaking the old record of 56 pages for three issues in 2012. We would like to thank sues for helping Search & Employ® help transitioning and veteran military, members of the National Guard and reserves, and their spouses find outstanding civilian jobs, business-ownership opportunities, and continuing education programs.

**RecruitMilitary** Reaches Sweet 16

was not just for bas-

ketball lovers. Mash-

com), an online news

site dedicated to cov-

ering digital culture,

social media, and

technology, created its

own bracket to crown

America's Most Social

Small Business, I am

throughout the United States to explain why parel company.

that

Mashable, headquartered in New York City,

gets more than 34 million unique monthly

visitors. The company challenged businesses

they deserved to win. Mashable then vetted all

entrants by dissecting their social presences

consumer engagements, company size, and

# On Healthcare



announce that RecruitMilitary has published a paper titled. "Closing the Unemployment Gap in Healthcare with Highly Qualified Military Veterans. The publication

cites industry and government reports

sistants, nurse and other healthcare workers will increase very rapidly in the new few vears: and points are that veterans are

well suited fo the new jobs.

The paper also discusses the Military Health System, certification for veterans. jobs in health centers across the country, and the role of military-to-civilian recruit-

"Closing the Unemployment Gap" is available as a PDF. If you will send me an email, I will send you a copy.

Chris Newsome is a national account executive, agency relations, at RecruitMilitary and a veteran of the United States Army. Contact

THE SAME QUALITIES THAT SUIT VETERANS FOR JOBS IN HEALTHCARE ARE VALUABL N OTHER FIELDS AS WELL:

## **RECRUITMILITARY Publishes White Paper**

by CHRIS NEWSOME

22-page white

indicating that the demand for medical as-

RECRUIT// HUTARY

a three-year initiative to help veterans find new requirements for federal contractors. employer efforts to source veteran talent,

him at cnewsome@recruitmilitary.com

- Veterans are great at transferring their skills
- Veterans are comfortable and adept
- Veterans are great team builders

WWW.RECRUITMILITARY.CO

## **SPECIAL SECTION** for VETERAN HIRING LEADERS

### by LARRY SLAGEL

## "RECRUIT MILITARY" WITH CONFIDENCE



lation of our database at www.recruitmilitary.com is well distributed throughout the country. So recruiters who need to fill positions nationwide can use our database with confidence to "recruit military." So can recruiters who are looking to fill rarious positions in any single region

Recruiters can conduct regional searches by using a Control-Click operation to se-

lect the desired states. The recruiters can select any combination of states – not just those that make up a particular region in our table.

Another great option is Local Candidate Database Search. Use our geographically-restricted search license to pinpoint candidates within 150 miles of your facility. For about 20 percent of the cost of our global search license, you can forget about relocation costs and long-distance interview processes.

To discuss the various options available to database subscribers and/or to arrange for a demo, contact your RecruitMilitary account

Larry Slagel is senior vice president of sales at RecruitMilitary and a former captain in the United States Marine Corps. Contact him

### atie Becker is RecruitMilitary's staff writer. One of her jobs is to provide stories and other content for

**Meet** Katie Becker

Search & Employ®. She also

writes about veteran hiring

issues in the news, and

helps create our monthly

newsletters – Incoming! and

KATIF RECKER

the Veteran Hiring Leader Bulletin, aimed at veteran job seekers and organiza-

tions that want to hire veterans, respectively. The iob that Katie likes best is writing success stories. These are told from either a veteran's perspective or from an employer's viewpoint, and often originate after a successful experience at a RecruitMilitary Career Fair. Frequently included are pieces of advice that veterans or recruiters have gleaned in their journeys, ranging from interview and resume tips for veterans, to what employers really need to look at when considering a veteran for a job.

These stories are featured on Search & Employ Online (http://search-and-employ.com), included in the print magazine (see, for example, the articles on pages 41, 48 and 49 of this issue) and mentioned in social media (see the list on page 1). Katie is also part of the team behind the upcoming RecruitMilitary Veteran Hiring Leaders Handbook, a resource for organizations that wish to attract, hire, retain, and appreciate top veteran talent. After joining RecruitMilitary in 2007, Katie spearheaded RecruitMilitary's resume writing program for veteran job seekers, and continues to serve as one of the company's resume writers. She graduated from Louisiana State University with a journalism degree, and then earned a law degree from LSU. She spent time in private practice in New Orleans, worked as an assistant state attorney in Florida, and served the Louisiana District Attorneys' Association as a staff attorney.

If you are a veteran who recently got a job as a result of attending a RecruitMilitary Career Fair – or an employer that recently hired a veteran via any of our military-to-civilian recruitment products and services – and you have a story you would like to tell, contact Katie at katie@recruitmilitary.com.

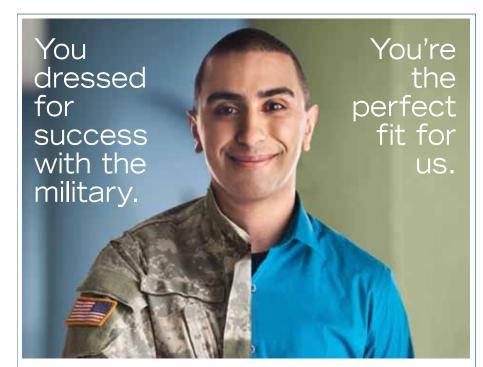
### Regional populations of job candidates who are registered at www.recruitmilitary.com MT Region 1: Northeast: CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT 57,019 8.5% Region 3: Southeast: AL. FL. GA. MS. NC. SC. TN 168,881 25,3% 6 Region 4: Midwest: IL, IN, KY, MI, OH, WI 93,946 Region 5: Plains: IA, KS, MN, MO, ND, NE, SD 35.549 5.3% Region 6: South Central: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX 97,161 14.5% egion 7: Mountain: CO, MT, UT, WY 20,341 gion 8: Pacific Southwest: AZ, CA, NV 84,768 12.75 Data compiled: March 24, 2014 Size of database: 675,846 Region 10: AK 2,066 0.3% ates who specified their current state Region 11: HI of residence: 668,096

% of DeVry University
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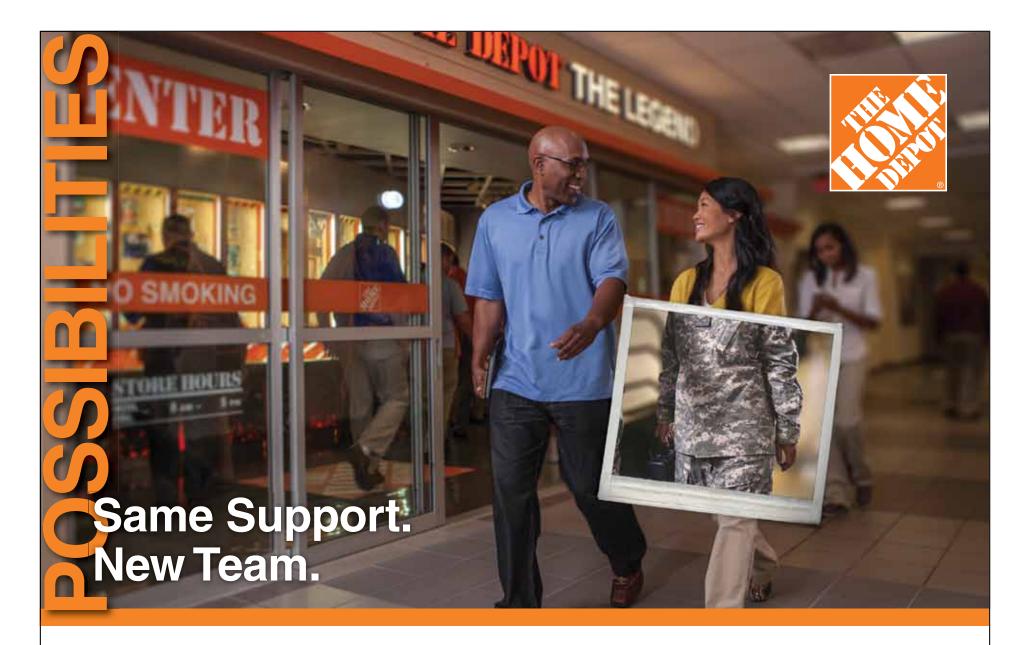
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