

EAST HARTFORD, CONN. – This morning **Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01)**, **CT Department of Labor Commissioner Glenn Marshall**, **Elliot Ginsberg of the Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology (CCAT)**, **Commissioner Linda Schwartz of the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs**

and

**Congressman Larson's First Congressional District Veterans Advisory Board**

announced the launching of the

*Connecticut Veterans Job Match*

Built on the existing framework of the *Connecticut Manufacturing Job Match* initiative, the Connecticut Veterans Job Match will sign up unemployed veterans and match them with local manufacturing and trade businesses that are hiring.

"As our brave men and women return home from service and enter a job market full of uncertainty, we must do everything we can to ensure that they have as many opportunities as possible," **Congressman Larson said**. "The Veterans Job Match program builds on the early success of the Connecticut Manufacturing Job Match initiative to bring government, private and non-profit resources together to help connect veterans looking for work with local businesses looking for workers. The men and women in uniform sacrifice every day to defend our freedom, the last thing they should have to fight for when they return home is the basic dignity that comes from a job."

"When an employer hires a veteran they get a person who brings valuable skills to the workplace, including dependability, motivation, a strong work ethic, and outstanding leadership qualities," noted **Labor Commissioner Glenn Marshall**. "This job match will connect employers with individuals that offer these transferable skills and have the strengths needed to help companies grow. At the same time, our veterans are being provided with local jobs that offer good pay and promising futures in the manufacturing industry."

Launched in November of 2011 the CT Manufacturing Job Match initiative has enjoyed early success in identifying 385 job seekers and placing them into three tracks of readiness based on experience and skills. From that pool 97 individuals were identified as "Track one" participants needing no training, 233 were placed in "Track two" needing additional training and 55 were identified as having no previous training or experience, but interested in breaking into the field. Of the 97 "Track one" individuals, 54 individuals came in for interviews with 37 companies at job match events earlier this year and 16 were successfully placed in new jobs.

The Veterans Job Match is being launched to coincide with the *Heroes for Hire* job fair today at Rentschler Field. During the course of the fair, veterans will be able to register with the job match. Additionally, the Veterans Job Match will target a list of 1,000 veterans with manufacturing experience as identified by the State Department of Labor office of Veterans Workforce Development.

"Any employer's 'Best Bet is to Hire a Vet' because they bring leadership skills, work ethics and enthusiasm to the workplace. One of the greatest challenges to this Nation and our returning veterans is finding jobs for the men and women who served us so well in uniform. Today's events and the announcements of future opportunities Connecticut is crafting for these veterans are part of 'keeping the promise,'" **State Veterans Affairs Commissioner Linda Schwartz** said Thursday. "When we send people off to war, America makes a compact with them that when they return we will be here for them. They have stood on the frontiers of freedom around

the world now it is our turn to stand for them."

"CCAT is proud to be a part of this collaborative effort to help our veterans find exciting and rewarding careers in manufacturing," stated Elliot **Ginsberg, president and CEO, Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology, Inc.**

"With the Veterans Manufacturing Job Match, we are able to ensure opportunities for those who have served our country so well."

Following the sign up period there are two job match events scheduled tentatively for May 24 and June 14 at the Middletown Armed Forces Reserve Center.

Veterans interested in participating in this program that were unable to attend Friday's *Heroes for Hire* event are encouraged to sign up for the job match by visiting the [CT Department of Labor's web site](#)

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