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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Incumbent Worker Training Grants are Awarded to Local Businesses

Spartanburg, S.C., October 27, 2015 -- The Upstate Workforce Investment Board (Upstate WIB) periodically receives federal funds from the Department of Labor through the SC Department of Employment and Workforce, designated for training existing workers within Cherokee, Spartanburg and Union counties. The Upstate WIB received 9 applications from Cherokee and Spartanburg county businesses and has awarded Incumbent Worker Training (IWT) grants to 7 businesses totaling \$54,504.00. Awards were determined by a committee of the board on October 22, 2015. The IWT grant period runs from August 24, 2015 through August 23, 2016. The Business Services staff of SC Works Upstate will be working with these businesses throughout the grant period.

IWT grants are awarded to train currently employed workers in an effort to keep businesses and workers competitive. IWT grants provide funding for training needed in current businesses due to expansion, new technology, retooling, new services/product lines and new organizational structuring, or as part of a layoff aversion strategy. The 7 businesses receiving IWT grants for Program Year 2015-2016 will train employees in a variety of courses including basic electricity, air distribution systems, heat pumps, basic maintenance, lean kaizen, production risk and avoidance, value stream mapping and training within industry. The businesses awarded grants were:

Boysen USA, LLC – Gaffney SC *\$4,650.00*
Davis Services, Inc. – Spartanburg SC *\$10,435.00*
IAC Group Inc. – Spartanburg SC *\$13,974.00*
IWGHPC – Spartanburg SC *\$6,000.00*
Martex Fiber Southern Corporation – Spartanburg SC *\$5,270.00*
Mermet – Gaffney SC *\$9,300.00*
Suminoe Textiles of America – Gaffney SC *\$4,875.00*
Total Awards: \$54,504.00

The Upstate Workforce Investment Board and SC Works Upstate are equal opportunity employers/programs; auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.



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