

WorkOne Program Participant Success Story: Vincent G. Redman

Vince lives in Fowler with his wife and worked as a Maintenance Technician at Viskase in Kentland at the time of its closing in November 2006. Vince visited the Oxford WorkOne Express Site where he found that he was eligible for both Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) and Dislocated Worker (DW) services following the closing of Viskase.

Vince, an experienced maintenance technician, chose to concentrate on job search because he believed he held the necessary skills for reemployment. He attended workshops and used Indiana Career Connect but still there were no offers of employment.

As time went on he decided it would be good to upgrade his current skills by attending school. Vince had graduated from high school 25 years earlier and recognized that he needed to brush up on basic skills before entering Ivy Tech Community College. He worked with the Morocco Adult Basic Education program on a daily basis to improve his math, reading and writing skills. Supportive service funds were also used to assist Vince with transportation costs during this time. TAA covered the cost of training and DW funds continued to assist with transportation costs during training. In December 2009 Vince completed an associate of applied science degree in Manufacturing/Industrial Technology with a concentration in Maintenance.

With the sluggish economy still an issue at the end of 2009, and no current work experience it was determined Vince would be a good candidate for additional services. We were able to secure an On-the-Job (OJT) Training contract with Subaru of Indiana Automotive using Community Services Block Grant funds. This allowed Vince to apply some of the new technology recently learned with the goal of being offered unsubsidized employment at the end of the OJT. Vince was offered and accepted a permanent, full-time maintenance technician position with Tuthill in May of 2010 where he is currently employed.