



February 2010

Coverstaff News

Hello & welcome to the February edition of Coverstaff News.

The year, so far, certainly seems to have a more positive feel than last January. One thing is certain 2010 will still be a challenging year and flexibility in the type of jobs employees are prepared to take will be an important factor.

Can we take this opportunity to wish everyone all the best for 2010.

All The Team @ Coverstaff

When calling in sick for an assignment please ensure you call our office on 377-3992 "One Hour" prior to your start time. Our offices are open from 6.30am – 6pm Mon-Thur and 6.30am – 5.30pm on Fridays.

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1 Year Anniversaries

This month we have celebrated 6 one year anniversaries.

- Sekone Leautuli
- Tony Turipa
- Sebastian Zaniewiez
- Dixie Rutter
- Samuel Toy
- Scott Van Rijswijk



Pictured here is Scott Van Rijswijk. Scott registered with us in January last year and since then has undertaken several assignments for Coverstaff as a Labourer. Scott enjoys what he does, is a hard worker and always puts in a full days effort. Good luck and all the best for the year ahead.

TIMESHEETS ARE TO BE HANDED /FAXED INTO THE OFFICE BEFORE 1PM ON MONDAYS

Minimum Wage Increased to \$12.75

Did You Know?

The Panama Canal is considered one of the engineering wonders of the world, and each year thousands of tourists flock to Panama to watch massive ships move through its complex lock system. Nevertheless, its true wonder lies in its contribution to world trade and shipping.

The Panama Canal has three sets of locks - Gatun, Pedro Miguel and Miraflores - each of which has two lanes. These locks serve as lifts, elevating vessels 85 feet above sea level from the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans to Gatun Lake.

Fed by gravity from Gatun Lake into each set of locks, the water enters the locks' chambers through a system of drains that extends under every lock chamber from the centre and side walls.

An average of 55 million gallons of fresh water is used, and takes about eight minutes to fill each chamber. After sailing through the Continental Divide, vessels are again lowered to sea level on the opposite side of the Isthmus of Panama.

Key Facts

- The Canal unites the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans at one of the narrowest points of both the Isthmus of Panama and the American continent.
- The Canal is 80 kilometres long.
- The Canal operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- There were 14,011 oceangoing transits in 2005
- More than 922,000 vessels have transited the waterway since the Panama Canal opened on August 15, 1914.
- On average, a vessel will take between eight to ten hours to transit the Canal; including waiting time for passage, 24.58 hours.
- The Canal transports 4% of world trade (measured in long-tons) and 16% of total U.S borne trade.
- 68% of Canal traffic originates in or is destined for the United States

Employee Christmas Function

Our employee Christmas Function was once again held at Yellow X in Sol Square. The evening was somewhat more subdued than last year, not that this was a bad thing.

The beer was cold, and the pizza was hot. It was fantastic to have the opportunity to say thank you to over 100 of our employees.

The team at Coverstaff would like to thank everyone who attended.



The Government has moved to increase the minimum wage from \$12.50 to \$12.75 in line with the Consumer Price Index, Minister of Labour Kate Wilkinson has announced.

The training and new entrants' minimum wages will increase from \$10.00 to \$10.20.

"The Government is focused on the need to find a balance between protecting jobs and ensuring a fair wage".

"We do not want to see workers priced out of the market but we are confident that a 25c increase, in line with inflation, will not overly harm or discourage businesses from taking on new staff".

"The Government is working hard to provide the right environment for economic growth and ensuring workers can maintain the buying power of their wages is part of that," Ms Wilkinson says.

The new minimum wage rate will come into effect on April 1, 2010.

Welcome-Onboard

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Kristan Jellyman to the Coverstaff Operations Team. Kristan has recently returned to Christchurch after completing her O.E.

Kristan has 2 years experience in the recruitment industry, having worked for a niche hospitality recruitment company in Edinburgh. Kristan will be assisting with the interviewing, screening and placement of new and existing candidates.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish Kristan all the very best in her new role with Coverstaff.



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