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Source: *G.I. Jobs*, Denise McNamara, (412) 269-1663 x128, www.gijobs.com/top50pr

Corporate America Competes Vehemently to Hire Military Veterans.

Despite current slowdown, American businesses grow access to military talent supply, seen as critical.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Nov. 10, 2008 – Across all industries, from struggling banks to burgeoning energy firms, corporate America is capitalizing on acquiring military talent, according to *G.I. Jobs*' sixth annual list recognizing the nation's Top 50 Military-Friendly Employers®, www.gijobs.com/top50pr.

The military produces nearly 400,000 new civilian workers annually. Aside from college campuses which produce a little over 1 million workers annually, the military is the largest, and arguably the most valuable, source of renewable, skilled talent in the country.

Matthew Rose, Chairman, President and CEO of #2 ranked BNSF Railway, strongly agrees with the military value employee value notion, saying that "those who wore our nation's uniforms are mission-focused, highly skilled, motivated and possess unique experiences and technical knowledge. Military candidates embody the core competencies of BNSF: leadership, teamwork and the ability to perform safely in a fast-paced, dynamic environment."

While unemployment rises and job losses approach one million for the year, even companies with suppressed immediate hiring needs continue to develop access to military talent pools. Why? It's baby boomers stupid! Experts agree that current job loss and unemployment statistics would be far worse if baby boomers hadn't started retiring from the workforce last year.

"Employers are facing a drastically reduced talent supply caused by millions of baby boomers retiring annually," said Susan F. Davis, executive vice president - human resources for Johnson Controls, which ranked #1 on the *G.I. Jobs* list. "The demand for talent will be higher than any of us can imagine and a company with well-branded access to renewable military labor pools positions itself to win. Our recruitment team realizes this and Johnson Controls is committed to ensuring military personnel know how much we want to hire them."

"This isn't about charity or patriotism. It's about good business. The companies on our list understand that," said Rich McCormack, who heads *G.I. Jobs*' list research.

Chris Hale, General Manager of *G.I. Jobs*, notes that interest in hiring military veterans has never been higher. "This list serves to disprove a populist notion that veterans are having difficulty finding jobs when leaving the military." Hale bristles at what he calls inaccurate attention given to high unemployment rates for America's young veterans, citing the fact that many young veterans opt to take unemployment benefits before starting a civilian career. "Given the operational tempo we're putting our troops through, wouldn't you?"

The pool of eligible companies (minimum of \$1 billion annual revenues) was approximately 2,500. Only 2 percent made the list. Seven firms – American Electric Power, Brinks, GE, Merrill Lynch, Sprint Nextel, The Home Depot and USAA – have earned a spot on the list in all six years of its existence.

Criteria for the rankings included assets dedicated to military hiring (28%), Reserve/Guard policies (18%), percentage of new hires who are veterans (14%), veteran training programs (10%) and previous three years' rankings (30%).

ABOUT G.I. Jobs

G.I. Jobs (www.gijobs.com) is published by Victory Media, a veteran-owned business, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa. The company also publishes *Military Spouse* and *Vetrepreneur* magazines.

G.I. Jobs 2008 Top 50 Military-Friendly Employer® List

1	Johnson Controls
2	BNSF Railway
3	Union Pacific
4	USAA
5	ITT Corporation
6	ManTech International Corporation
7	Applied Materials
8	CSX Transportation
9	The Home Depot
10	EG&G
11	CINTAS Corporation
12	Lockheed Martin
13	Schneider National, Inc.
14	J.B. Hunt Transport, Inc
15	Fluor Corporation
16	General Electric
17	Booz Allen Hamilton
18	Brink's, Incorporated
19	DynCorp
20	Transocean
21	Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold inc.
22	Sunbelt Rentals, Inc.
23	Werner Enterprises
24	Southern Company
25	Sears Holdings Corporation
26	Progress Energy
27	American Electric Power
28	Sprint Nextel
29	State Farm Insurance Companies

30	Norfolk Southern
31	Travelers
32	Northrop Grumman Corporation
33	Health Net Inc.
34	BearingPoint, Inc.
35	Merrill Lynch
36	CACI
37	The Boeing Company
38	Bank of America
39	Sodexo
40	AAR
41	Lowe's Companies, Inc.
42	Exelon
43	Chrysler LLC
44	G4S Wackenhut
45	Ecolab Inc.
46	ENSCO International
47	Corrections Corporation of America
48	Southern California Edison
49	Harris Corporation
50	T-Mobile

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