



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

NELSON B. BEFITEL, DIRECTOR
COLLEEN Y. LaCLAIR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-8844
Fax: (808) 586-9099

MR 2004 16

For Immediate Release: September 7, 2004

**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS LAUNCHES
NEW AND IMPROVED WEBSITE**

New Website is Customer Friendly and Designed for Easier Access to
Labor Laws and Labor Related Information and News

HONOLULU - The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations ("DLIR") today
launched their new and improved department website.

"The goal of the website redesign is to better serve our customers – Hawaii
employees and employers – by expanding the information on Hawaii's labor laws, our
department's services, goals and initiatives," said DLIR Director Nelson Befitel, "This is
an important tool in expanding our outreach, educational and training programs." The
new website offers information on all 17 divisions and attached agencies of the DLIR, as
well as providing forms, libraries, frequently asked questions, press releases, and the
department initiatives.

Although the website is a vast improvement, the DLIR will continue to enhance
its website in response to its customer's needs. Future improvements include:

- On-line drug awareness and training program for Hawaii's employees;
- Future initiatives and on-going projects in improving the lives of Hawaii's workforce;
- Information employees need to know about their rights, and how to file a workers' compensation, unemployment or other employment-related claim; and
- Providing Hawaii's businesses the information they need to know to comply with our state laws, bringing transparency to our department.

The DLIR is also striving to provide better 24 hour services, 7 days a week, to its customers on the internet. Some of those initiatives include:

- Allowing unemployment insurance claimants the ability to file on line;
- Allowing employers to file unemployment insurance quarterly wage reports;
- Enhancing the job orders system for employers looking for employees;
- Improving job search systems for job seekers; and
- Electronic filing of workers' compensation claims, and forms required to be filed by employers, insurance carriers, and medical providers.

The website redesign culminates a yearlong project, led by the department's information technology, with project leaders Casey Cho and David Imamura.

The DLIR encourages the public to provide comments on the new website and to provide suggestions for improvement. All comments should be forwarded to

DLIR@hawaii.gov or 808-586-8842.

#####

For more information, contact:
James P. Hardway
Assistant to the Director
Phone: (808) 586-8845
Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: jhardway@hawaii.gov