

Future Trends

Research & Analysis: Emerging Industries and Careers in the Local Market

White Paper

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About The Author:



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Ideas - Intuition - Innovation

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Along with other Consultants and Research Specialists at Blue Skies, I specialize in researching, discovering and tracking new and emerging trends that are affecting the current world of work, and the ways these trends will continue to change the future world of work. This content is used to promote creative, innovative ideas and strategic visioning with organizations and companies looking to evolve successfully in an atmosphere of change, aspiring entrepreneurs looking for “the next big thing,” industry professionals interested in generating new and different methods for creating products and services, and individuals in career transition who want and need to stay relevant in a global work environment that is in a continuous cycle of change.

Utilizing some of the same techniques, I also teach classes at UWM-School of Continuing Education, Career Transitions Center. We use trends content, assess class participants’ skills, experience and explore unknown talents to help them move through their career transition into their preferred work environment. Trends for new jobs and industries are presented, as well as information on how to become a “Free Agent,” one of the fastest growing work trends in today’s business world. This gives individuals the freedom and choice in creating their own opportunities for employment, either temporary or permanent. In addition, classes are offered in providing a new perspective, guidance and “road map” to help individuals navigate their way through the also-changing corporate culture landscape of today’s companies and industries.

Working as a business partner in the Alliance for Creative Professionals in Transition (a group of independent consultants coming), The goal of this alliance is to work as a team to bring comprehensive transition and training packages and workshops to companies, organizations, the US state and federal government and military personnel. Other work includes speaking engagements, workshops, providing sales and marketing, business plans and other guidance and support to businesses.

Our social responsibility area works with educators, secondary school systems, and students to work towards creating new and innovative teaching method that correlate with the new interests, temperaments, learning styles of the current student, and present them with different ideas for future job opportunities and career paths for future employment.

Volunteering and community service work are the heart around which the rest of the company revolves. It is my deep belief that “when we help one of us, we help all of us.” Giving time and energy to others is one way to do this. I currently serve on the Advisory Board for the UWM-School of Continuing Education, Career Transitions Center, and the Advisory Board for Milwaukee JobCamp as well as the Sponsorship Committee. Other volunteer activities include speaking and working with various networking and career groups.

Contents

- Preface..... 4
- There Really Are Blue Skies Ahead!..... 4
- Think Green..... 5
 - Smart Grid 5
 - Solar Energy 5
 - Energy Efficiency 6
 - Renewable Energy..... 7
 - Advanced Manufacturing 7
- Think Entrepreneur..... 8

Preface

Whether employed or not many of us are currently struggling to hold our households and financial situations together during this crazy economic period that I'm going to come right out and call "The Great Depression II." I hear friends, family and colleagues discussing these challenges and questioning how soon the economy will pull out of this Depression and speculating as to what the Future Work World will "look like" when it does?

There Really Are Blue Skies Ahead!

Based upon research, observations and conversations from individuals at different levels and types of industries, businesses, and schools I am going to list a few of the new work trends that I believe are emerging out of our current economic mess.

Some of what I "see" in the movement and activity in the business world gives me hope toward what looks to be many opportunities for both large and small businesses, and for both owners and employees. It also appears that there will be lots and lots of opportunities for individuals who want to become independent entrepreneurs. And for the first group who may just Help Save The Planet As Well!

Below are a few of these trends that are emerging right here in the Milwaukee area. I believe this list will brighten up your employment "blues," and bring a smile or two into your day.

Smart Grid

Smart Grid is an emerging cluster of technologies and services that address how we use, track and conserve energy in our homes, factories and offices.

Our power grid was built starting after WWII by different utilities at different times. The result is a patchwork of regional systems that have been linked together inefficiently. Renewable energy sources like solar and wind are providing a growing portion of our power while utility companies have been struggling to quickly spot and fix local outages and avoid blackouts and brownouts during peak times. Overall, it has become apparent that it is time to upgrade.

The power grid will be brought into the 21st century with "smart" components that allow various parts of the power supply chain to communicate with one another. For example, imagine how your energy consumption might change if your dryer or dishwasher could access the grid to determine the cheapest time of day to run your load of clothes or dishes.

How To Find Smart Grid Training In Milwaukee

The Wisconsin Technical College System, the Milwaukee Building and Construction Trades Council, Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership, Milwaukee Area Investment Board, Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, Wisconsin Energy Corp., Ruud Lighting, Wisconsin Energy Conservation Corp., among others.

What Types of Jobs Will Be Available and Will Require Smart Grid Training for Specific Technologies?

Systems Engineer, System Engineering Manager, Quality Engineer - Smart Grid, Field Applications Engineer - Smart Grid, Software Engineers, Hardware Engineers, Firmware Engineers, Firmware Architects, Design Engineers (Hardware, Firmware, Software), QA Engineers, Network Engineers, Product Managers, Project Managers, Utility AMI/MDMS, RF Engineer, Telecom Analyst, Application Architect, Technical Architecture, AMI Analyst, AMI OLP, TSD Analyst, Infrastructure Lead, Business Intelligence Analyst, Security Architect, SOA, Report Analyst, DBA

Solar Energy

The Solar Industry is growing. Solar panels can be seen on residential rooftops, utilities are moving towards adapting solar energy and this will have a significant impact on the number of jobs needed in this industry

How To Find Solar Energy Training

The Midwest Renewable Energy Association will work with universities, colleges and other groups in Wisconsin.

The Types of Jobs That Will Be Available In This Industry

Cell engineer, Drafter, Photovoltaic Designer, Construction Project Manager, Electrical Foreman and Residential Solar Consultants.

Energy Efficiency

A third industry showing signs of growth deals with energy efficiency. This could be redesigning and retrofitting large skyscrapers or helping homeowners and small-business owners to insulate better, upgrade to energy-efficient appliances or install windows that keep both the summer heat and winter cold at bay.

How To Find Energy Efficiency Training

The Center on Wisconsin Strategy, in cooperation with local political, labor, business, and community leaders, is organizing a large building-energy efficiency project in Milwaukee, WI - Milwaukee Energy Efficiency, or Me2.

Where Energy Efficient Jobs Will Be

When owners decide to invest in retrofitting, they put building auditors and trades people to work. Watch your local media and announcements from your local governments for more information about this trend.

Although each of these sectors offers clear opportunities for those with technical knowledge or trade skills, green economy companies will also need the employees that every business needs: Managers, Human Resources, Operations, Finance, Customer Support, Business Development Professionals.

Biotechnology

The biotechnology disciplines span many fields, including agriculture, medical, geological and nuclear. Medical applications include the biological technician, who aids scientists to find cures for diseases, and the forensic science technician who amasses and analyzes evidence to solve crime.

How To Find Training

MATC, UW-Madison

Companies Needing Employees Trained In Biotechnology

21st Century Genetics, ABS Global, Absolute Custom Pharmaceuticals, Agresearch International Inc, AgriBiotech Inc, AgSource Cooperative Services, AGSTAT, Aldrich Chemical Company, Alloy Products

Corporation, ALSBYTE Biotechnology, Alta Genetics USA Inc, American Ag-Tec International Ltd, American Biotech Labs Inc, Applied Biochemists Inc.

Renewable Energy

Renewable Energy promotes renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainable living.

How To Find Renewable Energy Training

Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA), MATC, Energy Center Wisconsin

Companies That Will Need Employees with Energy Efficiency Training and Skills

Alliant Energy, Discovery World, Growing Power, Inc., Briggs & Stratton, MillerCoors, Johnson Diversey, SC Johnson, Menasha, Sonic Foundry, Century Springs, Alterra Coffee, Outpost Natural Foods, Sassy Cow Creamery, Willy Street Co-Op, Sugar River Dairy.

Advanced Manufacturing

Participants explore the changing nature of the modern manufacturing environment in terms of competition, globalization, quality, efficiency, and technology. Participants examine various manufacturing strategies and practices that have helped companies remain competitive in the global marketplace. Learning activities will help participants understand the importance of core manufacturing skills in employing new technologies and process improvements.

How To Find Advanced Manufacturing Training

Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA), MATC, Energy Center Wisconsin

Employers That Will Need Employees With Advanced Manufacturing Training

GE Healthcare, Brady, Johnson Controls, DRS Technologies, ARISE Virtual Solutions, Sensient Technologies

Think Entrepreneur

1. **Energy Saving Business**

This idea is definitely hot in the past few years, and in 2010 the emphasis on energy cost-cutting regimes will push any energy saving businesses even further. Producing or distributing LED lightings will be the right business this year.

2. **Online Business**

With a website you can start a lucrative online business selling products, services – all without any bricks and mortar..

3. **Baby Boomer-Related Business**

Baby boomers are retiring from the workforce, creating a mega-problem to the economy – thanks to the flawed MediCare, Social Security and retirement funds. Home Care, Concierge Services, anything that will make their lives run smoother will be popular.

4. **Cheap and/or Recycled Product Business**

“Turning trash into cash” type of business is very lucrative right now. With the increase in material and production costs, making use of ‘useless’ materials and creating something out of them can become a thriving business.

5. **Home-Based Business**

The best cost-cutting innovation of all – work from your home! With the ever-presence of the Internet, working at home is easy these days.

6. **Charity and Philanthropy**

Giving as a business? Yes, you can be a business that matches recipients and givers, such as the web-based Kiva.com that matches small business borrowers with lenders.

7. **Mobile business**

Location independent business owners. With a laptop and cellphone, you can run your business wherever you are.

8. **Free Agent** – Work when, where and doing what you want to do for a short or long term project, then moving on to the next company. You can find your jobs via a staffing company, or through your own efforts such as networking.

For more information about our Research and Consulting Services

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