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New company checks out area

Forthcoming plant could hire more than 50

By MARK SZAKONYI

Advocate Reporter

NEWARK -- Among the 28 employers at the Licking County Opportunity Links Seventh Annual Emplc Expo on Thursday, there were some old faces and some new ones.

One of the newcomers was Samuel Strapping Systems Inc., which plans to open a processing faci by mid-to-late 2007, said Jim Waterman, operations manager.

Waterman said he came to the expo at The Place Off The Square, 50 N. Second St., to gauge the in Licking County.

He said Samuel Strapping Systems is looking to hire more than 50 people within the next three the facility in Heath.

The company, which is a division of Samuel Manu-Tech Inc., would process flat-rolled steel at Waterman said.

"We're looking for hard workers of course," he said. "We're looking for people with fork-lift processing skills."

Samuel Manu-Tech, founded in 1855, is a processor and distributor of metal, plastic and relat services, according to its Web site.

Aside from Samuel Manu-Tech, other potential employers at the expo included State Farm Insura Corp. and J & J Building Assemblers.

Expo organizer Lori Mye said she estimated between 400 and 700 people attended the expo.

"It is an opportunity to meet face-to-face with the employer," said Mye, an employment specia Opportunity Links.

She many of the companies, which ranged from health care to manufacturing industries, brought the expo.

Mye said the local One Stop Employment and Training Center provides job-search assistance, ca information, a resource library, education and training information.

Jarod Frew, 19, of Newark, was well-dressed as suggested and armed with resumes.

The recent high school graduate said he was looking for "any job that will make me some money

On the other side of the booth, Melissa Hall, office manager of J & J Builders Assemblers, sa an applicant was right for the job within 30 seconds of interviewing them.

"We're looking for a candidate who is not afraid of heights, willing to do some traveling and employment," Hall said.

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She said it was the first time the Utica-based company has had a booth at the expo.

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