

CBSI, Focus: HOPE team up to offer jobs

Complete Business Solutions Inc., a Farmington Hills computer consulting firm, has teamed up with Focus: HOPE to provide paid employment, advanced technical training and long-term career opportunities for young peo-

This innovative program, Fast Track Plus, builds upon the success of Fast Track, Focus: HOPE's intensive training course in which high school graduates can sharpen skills in communications, math and reading in preparation for professional careers.

Earlier this year, President Clinton recognized Focus: HOPE's technical training program as a successful model for de-

living on the promise of his JOBS program. The CBSI/Focus: HOPE partnership enhances Clinton's JOBS strategy by providing a way to prevent underemployment and idleness.

New CBSI employees who have successfully completed Focus: HOPE's Fast Track curriculum and have expressed an interest in pursuing computer-related careers will be assigned to work on CBSI projects.

"CBSI's partnership with Focus: HOPE reinforces our company's commitment to the Detroit community," said Raj Vattikuti, CBSI president and founder. "Fast Track Plus not only enriches the minds of young people,

but enriches the community as well. There is a desperate need for highly skilled workers in the computer industry.

"The consultants who complete the Fast Track Plus program will supplement our existing college recruitment efforts where we hire the brightest college graduates and provide them with superior technical training and challenging projects."

Focus: HOPE director the Rev. William Cunningham said, "We have been committed to job training for Detroit youth and the economic development of our community for more than 25 years and today are pioneering an effort to provide our young people with

the technical skills necessary to create long-term career opportunities.

"The partnership between Focus: HOPE and CBSI is proof that teaming up businesses with young people seeking career opportunities is a solution that can work. With the strong support of companies like CBSI who are leaders in their respective industries, we are indeed making progress towards ending underemployment and welfare as we know it."

CBSI is an international software application development and systems consulting firm.

Founded in 1985, the company has grown to 650 employees.

Marketplace

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MINX system, and other custom programs and network services, to small and mid-size companies. MINX products let users participate in multi-location video calls from the desktop regardless of their existing computer setup.

Datapoint is a provider of computer-based networking, telephony and video communications.

■ AWARD PRINTER

Jim Kennedy, owner of Insty-Prints centers in Rochester, Rochester Hills and Lake Orion, received the Million Dollar Club, Sales Excellence and Sales Leadership award from the Minnesota-based franchisor. Nationwide, his stores were among Insty-Print's top 10 business printing centers for 1993. Kennedy opened his first location in 1972.

The award was presented during the company's national convention in Dallas, Tex.

FINISH TRAINING

Representatives from Detroit-based Flame Furnace Co., whose branch offices are in Livonia, Troy and Warren and downriver, finished a sales training program conducted by Lennox Industries, headquartered in Dallas, Tex.

Flame Furnace president Gary Marowski said the comprehensive training, called Sales Excellence Advisors League, benefits homeowners by teaching dealers how to maintain a consistent level of performance and service.

Flame Furnace was named Contracting Business Magazine's 1993 Contractor of the Year.

► GET UP SCHOLARSHIP

SET UP SCHOLARSHIP
For Burns & Wilcox Ltd.'s 25th anniversary as an MGA, London brokerage house Corrie Bauckham Batts Ltd. has set up an annual scholarship for a Burns & Wilcox employee.

The scholarship allows an employee to work in Batts' London office for a month. This year's winner is a senior underwriter from the Charlotte, N.C., branch. Burns & Wilcox is the largest national MGA branch network and is a member company of H.W. Kaufman Financial Group, based in Farmington Hills.

■ FORUM SPEAKERS

David M. Deutsch, vice president of Leo Knight Photography in Southfield, will present a program titled "Creating Dynamic Environmental Portraits" at the international convention of Professional Photographers of America July 8-13 in Denver.

More than 8,000 professional image makers from around the world are expected to attend.

■ INVESTMENT HONOR

The Bank of Bloomfield Hills' 1994 Alternative Investment Series has received an award of excellence from the International Association of Business Communicators in the category of special event communication campaigns.

The award honors professionalism, innovation and creativity through content, form and presentation. It will be presented at a dinner of the Engineering Society of Detroit June 23.

Buying collectibles and investing wisely is the subject of the six-part series, which began in January. The series, held every other month at The Townsend Hotel, features area experts with tips and advice on spotting value in everything from jewelry and gemstones, to art and automobiles, to wine futures and stocks.

The series is part of The Bank of Bloomfield Hills' efforts to offer informative programs on investment options that go beyond traditional banking services.

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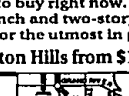
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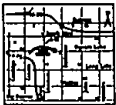
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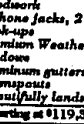
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