



---

**News Release**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 4, 2013

Media Contact: Dan Boss  
Program Publicity Specialist  
(231) 929-5047  
[danboss@nwm.cog.mi.us](mailto:danboss@nwm.cog.mi.us)

---

**Employer Training Council  
Contractor and Worker Classification Workshop**

**Tuesday, March 19, 2013**

**8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Hagerty Center, 715 E. Front St., Traverse City**

TRAVERSE CITY, MI—The Employer Training Council (ETC) is hosting a Contractor and Worker Classifications workshop Tuesday, March 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Hagerty Center in Traverse City. The workshop will focus on developing policies and best practices for classifications and exemptions for your contractors and workers.

Featured experts at the workshop include Susan Rahn, an IRS stakeholder liaison; Michael McPherson, owner and president of HR That Works 4 U Solutions; and Janis Adams, an employment law attorney with Smith, Haughey, Rice & Roegge.

"As employers, it is important to make sure that you don't put yourself in a position to get audited and fined by the various government agencies," said McPherson. "One of the most common errors employers make is in regard to exempt versus non-exempt employees. Consequently, this is one of the most common areas where employers get fined."

The workshop will include information about correct employee classification, appropriate uses of contractors, contract vs. non-contract workers, and the financial impact of non-compliance. Workshop attendees will receive a sample contract/agreement template to use for contractors.

(MORE)

"There are real dollars in fines and tax obligations that can hit an organization when workers are classified incorrectly," said Jennifer Ewing, Director, HR and EH&S, AlcoTec Wire Corporation. "It is worth the half-day of time to learn more on these topics and ensure you are not putting your organization at risk."

Registration is \$40 per person and includes breakfast. Check in and breakfast run from 8:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. You can get more information and register online at: [nwm.org/etc](http://nwm.org/etc).

More information is also available by calling Lisa at: 231-929-5081.

The Employer Training Council, a nonprofit council made up of public and private industry, is committed to identifying key workforce issues and offering solutions to community businesses through training and workshops. Members and sponsors include Grand Traverse Container, Alcotec Wire Corporation, Northwest Michigan Works!, Benzie County Chamber of Commerce, and Northwest Michigan Council of Governments.

# # #

NOTE to Media: Images are oftentimes available upon request by e-mailing Tom White at [tomwhite@nwm.cog.mi.us](mailto:tomwhite@nwm.cog.mi.us) and stating preferences for resolution (300 dpi?), file format (.tif? .jpg?) and file size (1MB or less?). Or, phone (231) 929-5044. Check our online Media Room at: [nwm.org/media](http://nwm.org/media)

Founded in 1974, the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments (NWMCOG) facilitates and manages various programs and services for the 10 county region. These programs include Northwest Michigan Works, YouthBuild, Small Business & Technology Development Center, Procurement Technical Assistance Center, various business services, and many different regional planning initiatives in response to our communities' requests and needs. You will see the broad spectrum of workforce, business and community services NWMCOG offers if you visit our web site, [nwm.org](http://nwm.org)

NWMCOG's member counties are: Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, and Wexford.