

NEWS RELEASE

Date: November 3, 2011

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Bentz Selected As Outstanding Worker



Caption: Mark Bentz (Right) accepts the 2011 Joslin Outstanding Performer award from Jennifer Lawrence of New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID). Bentz is one of 50 individuals statewide recognized by NYSID for their outstanding work achievements. He is employed as a machine operated in the Liberty Enterprises' soap production area

Mark Bentz has been selected as a 2011 Joslin Outstanding Performer by New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID), a statewide organization that oversees preferred source contracts for agencies serving people with disabilities. Bentz is one of 50 New Yorkers that were acknowledged by NYSID for their work achievements. The awards are presented in conjunction with the nationwide observance of Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrated in October.

Bentz was nominated for the award by Liberty Enterprises' vocational program staff. He has been enrolled in the program since 2001 and presently works as a machine operator in the Liberty Enterprises' soap production area. He works along with his supervisor

running the dry fill machine that produces small packets of detergent that are sent along on a conveyor belt to be packaged. In the nomination, Bentz is recognized as being, "a very dependable worker regarding attendance, and a loyal friend to every one of his coworkers and Liberty staff."

A check for \$250 and a certificate was awarded to Wells by Jennifer Lawrence of NYSID at the annual luncheon of Liberty's supported employment program, the Career & Employment Network, held on October 27.

"Mark Bentz exemplifies what an outstanding worker should be," said Bill Sikora, Director of Manufacturing Operations at Liberty. "He is committed to quality work and goes above and beyond what is expected. We are very proud of his well deserved selection as a Joslin Outstanding Performer".

Liberty Enterprises provides a wide range of vocational training and community employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. Currently, the program supports nearly 300 individuals in vocational training programs, mobile work crews, competitive employment, enclave placements, school-to-work programs and temporary transitional employment placements. The vast majority of these individuals are out in the community working at area businesses.

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