Kodak, My Digital Office, Lifetime Assistance, and CloudDOCX Team Up To Provide Career Building Opportunities to Employees with Developmental Disabilities

ROCHESTER, N.Y., October 07 - Eastman Kodak Company has joined forces with My Digital Office (MDO), a service bureau and reseller of Kodak's Document Imaging products, Lifetime Assistance Inc., and CloudDOCX, in pioneering a program that employs adults with developmental disabilities to provide document management services for businesses throughout upstate New York.

"The program has many positives," said Jordon Brown, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Lifetime Assistance Inc. "From a human services viewpoint, it offers workers more than hope. It provides an opportunity to become self sufficient in ways that were not possible previous to its implementation." Through this business, Lifetime Assistance's document management workshop has become recognized by New York State Industries for the Disabled (NYSID) as a Preferred Source Vendor for document management services.

"My Digital Office has worked with Lifetime Assistance since 2008," said Mark Brower, President of My Digital Office. "Initially, we had Lifetime employees perform document preparation work, including the removal of staples and stacking documents right side up. Over time this has blossomed into a much fuller relationship, with our business relocating a number of employees to the Lifetime Document Management (LDM) operation, where we operate collectively."

Brower explained that as the relationship grew, so did responsibilities undertaken by the Lifetime Assistance employees. "Today, approximately a third of the 45 Lifetime Assistance employees who work in the document management workshop have become scanner operators," he stated.

While a number of human services work centers throughout the country perform document preparation work and ship the ready to be scanned documents to service bureau clients, some do provide training to become scanner operators, yet few have arrangements where both service bureau and work center employees work together. The My Digital Office and Lifetime Assistance, Inc., CloudDOCX partnership—along with some specialized training provided by Kodak—is on the vanguard of such activities.

"At present, the scanning operation consists of ten KODAK i1320 departmental and i1400 series low volume production scanners, all running with KODAK Capture Pro software," said Marty Reeners, Director of Vocational Services for Lifetime Assistance Inc. and General Manager for Lifetime Document Management. "Previously, our operation concentrated on certified document destruction. When Mark approached us in regard to training work center employees to become scanner operators, we realized that this was an opportunity that would provide our employees the education, training and, importantly the experience, they needed to be successful not only in a work center but in obtaining long term competitive employment."

My Digital Office provides the majority of technical training and mentorship to the work center employees. Recently, Kodak Document Imaging business employees Sal Cardella, US&C Technical Support Manager, and Bill Holley, US&C Business Development Manager, presented a specific course of advanced hands on training for KODAK Capture Pro Software.

"The program included practical instruction, guidance, and practice sessions to enable work center employees to become fully proficient in setting up and using what is a very comprehensive document capture software program, KODAK Capture Pro software," Cardella said.

Auto dealers comprise a major customer set for the joint operation. The LDM customer base also includes real estate management, manufacturing, health care and human services companies. After scanning the documents, employees perform quality checks on the files and upload them to third party CloudDOCX's website.

The scanning service is growing as auto dealers and other businesses learn of the business efficiency and cost benefits to digital record keeping.

"We are looking forward to doubling our auto client base over the next year," Brower said. Brower noted that the workshop will be purchasing additional scanners and training more Lifetime Assistance employees to become scanner operators.

"Growth in business is always great," Reeners said. "What is particularly satisfying is that through this effort we are offering the people we serve the opportunity for a future. As our work center employees increase their earnings, they are less dependent on financial assistance from government agencies, and more importantly, our clients travel further down the road to self sufficiency and accomplishment."

KODAK Products are backed by KODAK Service and Support. KODAK Service and Support is made up of more than 3,000 professionals reaching more than 120 countries. It is a leading multi-vendor integrated services provider, delivering consulting, installation, maintenance and support services for the commercial printing, graphic communications, document imaging, data storage and retail industries. KODAK Service and Support professionals are uniquely qualified to provide services that control costs, maximize productivity, and minimize business risk.

About Lifetime Assistance Inc.

Lifetime Assistance Inc. is a human services agency located in Rochester, NY, that has been providing support services to developmentally disabled adults for over 30 years. They currently serve nearly 2,000 individuals yearly at over 50 locations providing a comprehensive array or services which includes residential, clinical, vocational and employment services. To learn more, visit www.lifteimedocumentmanagement.com

About CloudDOCX

CloudDOCX is a hosted document management service offering of Croop-LaFrance, delivering secure electronic storage, search, access and retrieval of records anywhere an internet connection is available. Croop-LaFrance has joined with these partner firms in this endeavor to be the exclusive provider of the electronic repository through CloudDOCX. As the document management service of the uploaded records using Kodak's scanning technology with My Digital Office's and Lifetime's resources and facilities, CloudDOCX brings a powerful search technology and cost effective infrastructure to provide the critical electronic records storage and access component. More information about CloudDOCX is available at www.clouddocx.com

About My Digital Office

My Digital Office is a Rochester, NY-based business focused on making its customers lives easier and their businesses more efficient through digital imaging data and innovatively managing it. Read more about My Digital Office at www.mdotogo.com

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