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## **Corporate America Accelerates Military Recruiting Efforts as Baby Boomer Retirements Cause Growing Nationwide Talent Shortage**

### ***BNSF Railway Captures Coveted Top Spot in G.I. Jobs' 2007 Top 50 "Military-Friendly Employers" List***

**Pittsburgh, Pa. Nov. 7, 2007** – On Oct. 15, 2007, Kathleen Casey-Kirschling – America's first official baby boomer – applied for social security. She is the first in a wave of 80 million baby boomers who are expected to retire at a rate of over 10,000 per day for the next two decades. This shrinking quantity and quality of the U.S. workforce, combined with even modest economic expansion, will make transitioning military personnel – one of only two renewable talent pools in the U.S. – even more coveted as companies compete for top talent.

"Hiring America's military veterans is a smart business decision for which all of the Top 50 companies should be commended," said Chris Hale, general manager of the publication. "Sure, it's patriotic to hire military, but that's not why corporate America does so. These companies understand how military knowledge, training and real-world experience positively affect their bottom line."

BNSF Railway unseated two-time repeat performer Union Pacific to capture the No. 1 position of America's Top 50 "Military Friendly-Employers" in the fifth annual list published by *G.I. Jobs*, the nation's premier career guide for military job-seekers. "We are humbled, and proud, to be selected the No. 1 of 2,500 companies," said Connie McLendon, military staffing manager for BNSF. "We have worked hard to increase our outreach to members in transition from the military to civilian work. Just to be among the Top 50 is an honor."

The annual list is a "who's who?" of FORTUNE® 1000 firms who have made the greatest effort and have had the greatest success in hiring military veterans. The list spans the entire industry spectrum of the U.S. economy.

The pool of eligible companies (minimum of \$1 billion annual revenues) was approximately 2,500. Only 2 percent made the list. Seven firms – American Electric Power, Brinks, GE, Merrill Lynch, Sprint Nextel, The Home Depot and USAA – have earned a spot on the list in all five years of its existence. Johnson Controls, Lockheed Martin and Union Pacific have made the lists in four of five years.

Criteria for the rankings included assets dedicated to military hiring (40%), Reserve/Guard policies (25%), percentage of total new hires in the past two years who are veterans (20%), and veteran recruitment / training / promotional programs (15%).

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**ABOUT G.I. Jobs**

G.I. Jobs is published by Victory Media, a veteran-owned business, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa. The company also publishes *Military Spouse* and *Vetpreneur* magazines.

**G.I. Jobs 2007 Top 50 Military-Friendly Employer List**

1	BNSF Railway	26	Sprint Nextel
2	Union Pacific	27	Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold
3	ITT Systems	28	Constellation Energy
4	EG&G (Lear Siegler)	29	ENSCO International
5	USAA	30	Fluor
6	Schneider National	31	BearingPoint
7	Johnson Controls	32	Merrill Lynch
8	CSX Transportation	33	Brink's U.S.
9	ManTech International	34	State Farm
10	Applied Materials	35	Anheuser-Busch
11	Booz Allen Hamilton	36	Health Net
12	The Home Depot	37	Lowe's
13	Lockheed Martin	38	Xcel Energy
14	J.B. Hunt Transport	39	Progress Energy
15	CINTAS	40	FMC Technologies
16	DynCorp	41	U-Haul
17	EDS	42	Bank of America
18	General Electric	43	AT&T
19	Travelers	44	T-Mobile
20	GlobalSantaFe	45	NVR
21	Southern Company	46	American Electric Power
22	Werner Enterprises	47	Southern California Edison
23	Norfolk Southern	48	Westinghouse
24	Morgan Stanley	49	Wachovia
25	Sunbelt Rentals	50	Sears Holdings

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