

## VEGI EMPLOYEE SUCCESS PROFILES

### Vermont Smoke and Cure

Approved for VEGI in 2011 for hiring 2012-2016

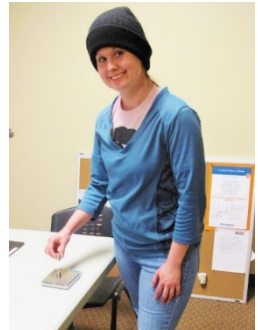
**Name:** Lauren Whitney

**Town of Residence:** Bristol, VT

**Job Title:** Quality Assurance Technician

**Hired:** January 2013

Prior to being employed at Vermont Smoke and Cure, Lauren was working a range of part-time and seasonal jobs struggling to make ends meet; apprehensive to lay roots in the state that Lauren loves due to the lack of job security.



Lauren first began working as a general production employee which involved tasks like weighing, portioning, cutting, and packaging of meat. Within a year of being hired, Lauren was able to receive certification and training focused on lean manufacturing, HACCP, and internal auditing practices. Lauren then became a line leader, responsible for maintaining a team of workers and meeting inventory demands for all bacon products. Steady increases in production lead to the development of the position Lauren currently holds, Quality Assurance Technician. Lauren has since had the chance to work alongside our Quality Assurance Manager helping to develop and implement programs, assist in external and internal food safety audits, learning countless technical skills, and studied meat science and related microbiology.

Lauren stated "During my employment I have had the opportunity to grow and develop into a more significant role based on my motivation to learn and the opportunities available. The future looks promising for Vermont Smoke and Cure and I feel comfortable and confident that my job is secure; I look forward to my next opportunity to diversify and improve myself as an employee."

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### Mylan Technologies

Approved for VEGI in 2012 for hiring 2012-2016

**Name:** Shannon Woodworth

**Town of Residence:** Franklin, VT

**Job Title:** Senior Operator

**Hired:** February 2013



Shannon Woodworth had been an Operator at Energizer in Saint Albans Vermont for 7 years working there before the closing of the facility. It just so happened that the closing of Energizer opened new doors for Shannon at Mylan Technologies (MTI), which was growing and expanding at that time. Shannon took the leap to seek new ventures into pharmaceutical manufacturing and was hired as an operator in Packaging at MTI in February 2013. Starting as an Operator at MTI required some expedited learning of Good Manufacturing and Good Documentation Practices, advanced technical skills, and a heightened level of leadership skills. Shannon was challenged with these tasks and excelled and was soon promoted to Senior Operator in September 2014 and given more responsibilities, like leading a packaging line. Shannon looked to further her technical ability and utilized Mylan's Education Assistance program to pursue an Industrial Mechanical Technician certification from the Vermont Technical College. With MTI's support, Shannon is on her last two weeks of the 40 week class. Shannon is currently a lead of a newly installed packaging line with new technologies.

# VEGI EMPLOYEE SUCCESS PROFILES

## BioTek Instruments

Approved for VEGI Incentives in 2013 for hiring in 2013 - 2017

**Name:** Paul Carpenter

**Town of Residence:** Essex Jct

**Job Title:** Service Parts Coordinator

**Hired:** June 2012



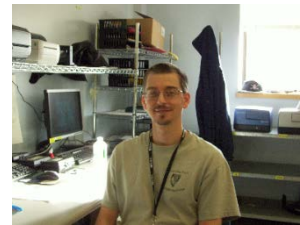
Paul was hired as a Warehouse Clerk in June 2012. Paul is personable and enjoyed by all of his co-workers. Paul demonstrated great initiative in the Warehouse and always offered ideas for improvements and took on new tasks. These traits were instrumental in Paul receiving a promotion to Service Parts Coordinator just 18 months after being hired. This was an increase in duties and responsibilities where he has also excelled.

**Name:** Mark Weidmann

**Town of Residence:** Westford

**Job Title:** Assembler

**Hired:** January 2013



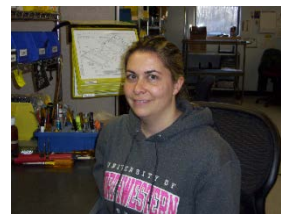
Mark was hired in January 2013 as an Assembler. Mark had worked for other great Vermont companies and came to us with a solid background in electro-mechanical assembly and troubleshooting skills. Mark was quick to learn and came up to speed very quickly on BioTek's processes and assemblies. Mark is now one of the "go-to" individuals to train new employees. Mark is incredible patience and has an ability to explain things in a way that makes it easy to learn. Mark has been a great addition to our manufacturing team.

**Name:** Jamie Boutin

**Town of Residence:** Fairfax

**Job Title:** Supervisor

**Hired:** February 2013



Jamie was hired as an Assembler in 2013. Jamie immediately demonstrated leadership qualities. We worked with her on developing these traits and sent her to training. When we had to create a fourth Supervisory position in our Assembly area, Jamie was ready. Jamie was promoted to Supervisor in 2014 and is a strong leader providing guidance to new and long-term employees alike. Jamie is always cheerful and ready to take on any challenge with a smile.

## VEGI EMPLOYEE SUCCESS PROFILES

### COMMONWEALTH DAIRY

Approved for VEGI Incentives in 2012 for hiring in 2012-2016

**Name:** Jackie Velazquez

**Town of Residence:** Vernon

**Job Title:** Quality Assurance Lab Technician

**Hired:** October 2013



Jackie came to Commonwealth Dairy in October of 2013 as a temporary employee in our packaging department. With her she brought a strong work ethic, a positive attitude, and a smile that will light up the room. From early on in her employment it was evident that Jackie's work consistency and attention to detail were two of her strengths. After 3 months with us she was promoted to a full time Lab Technician in our Quality Assurance Lab where she continues to work today.

**Name:** Sam Garland

**Town of Residence:** Dummerston

**Job Title:** Director Supply Chain

**Hired:** Summer 2011



Sam joined Commonwealth Dairy in the summer of 2011 with significant management experience in the food distribution industry. Wanting to be part of our company, Sam accepted a full time position as a packer hoping there would be room for him to grow with the company. He began his in his packing position and within 2 weeks was helping to organize workflow and duty assignments or other packers. Shortly thereafter he was moved to our warehouse to do much of the same. Within a matter of a few months Sam's hopes were realized and he moved into the role of Supply Chain Manager. Today Sam continues to play a vital role in the success of our company in his executive role of Director, Supply Chain.

## VEGI EMPLOYEE SUCCESS PROFILES

### **BARIATRIX NUTRITION CORP**

Approved for VEGI Incentives in 2011 for hiring in 2011-2015

**Name:** Kris Richards

**Town of Residence:** St. Albans

**Job Title:** Operations Supervisor

**Hired:** Summer 2011



Kris was hired as a Production Supervisor, in 2013, responsible for the operation of the line that produces protein shakes and smoothies, including supervision of four Machine Operators. Increases in production allowed Bariatrix to hire additional employees in the Packaging Department, thereby confirming the need for a supervisor equally in the Packaging and Production departments. Due to Kris' dedication to building cohesive teams, he was promoted to Operations Supervisor in 2015, now with the oversight over seventeen employees in both departments.