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## Manpower Named 2011 Disability Matters Honoree

Manpower has been named a 2011 Disability Matters Honoree for its work in supporting people with disabilities, specifically for the Project Ability Program, an innovative workforce solution for transitioning people with disabilities into sustainable and meaningful employment. Project Ability combines the expertise of disability-focused community-based organizations, state departments of rehabilitation and Manpower for transitioning people with disabilities into sustainable and meaningful employment.

Project Ability, which was launched in San Jose, California, is now active in Boston and will begin operating in Chicago, Houston and five other markets in 2011. To date, the program has placed 115 individuals into employment, with another 155 in the talent pipeline.

The Disability Matters Awards are sponsored by Springboard Consulting, which leads efforts in the U.S. on marketing to people with disabilities and their families, and supporting them in the workplace.

The prestigious awards are presented to progressive corporations that support members of the disability community through diversity, work-life and/or human resource initiatives. Manpower won in the category of Workforce: Human Resource and Related initiatives for Recruiting People with Disabilities.

"This honor is one example of Manpower's leadership in driving talent acquisition in the framework of diversity in the workplace," said Jan Sonneman, executive project lead for Project Ability. "The program exemplifies Manpower's approach to defining talent as the new "It" in adopting best practices that leverages human potential at all levels, including people with disabilities."

Manpower will receive its award at the 5th Annual Disability Matters Awards Banquet and Conference taking place on April 6 – 7, 2011, in San Jose.

The conference will also include a panel presentation in which Manpower will profile the Project Ability Program.

Previous winners of the Disability Matters Awards include Cisco Systems, McDonald's Corporation and Northrop Grumman.

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The VABLN offers our support to Jill Houghton during this transition period as our Acting Executive

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"TecAccess is a success today because of our disability employment initiatives. Businesses large and small now realize the ROI involved in hiring a talented workforce that includes people with disabilities."--Debra Ruh, President & Founder, TecAccess, LLC

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