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Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council

Conseil sectoriel de l'imprimerie du Canada

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## **CPISC launches new *Skills at Work* suite and online *HR Toolkit***

Ottawa, ON—The Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council (CPISC) has launched two new integral resources for Canada's printing and graphic communications industry—a *Skills at Work* suite of tools and an online *HR Toolkit*.

The guides and tools in the *Skills at Work* suite are part of CPISC's **Print•Ready** program. The *Skills at Work* suite enables employers and employees to use the Skill Standards in the workplace to assess skills, identify gaps and ultimately develop an on-the-job training strategy. The suite includes guides for employers and employees, and a guide to implementing on-the-job training. *Skills at Work* also includes Skills Assessment Checklists and Training Trackers for each of the 12 occupations for which Skill Standards have been developed. Each component of the *Skills at Work* suite is available for download free of charge at [www.cpisc-csic.ca](http://www.cpisc-csic.ca).

"Many of the industry's challenges stem from rapidly changing technology and the need for highly-skilled workers," said Duncan Brown, CPISC Co-Chair. "The new *Skills at Work* suite will help both employers and employees meet the Skill Standards in a way that will benefit individual workers, their employers and the industry as a whole."

CPISC's *HR Toolkit* addresses HR issues that affect small and medium-sized printing firms in Canada. It's essentially a virtual HR department, loaded with information and highly-adaptable templates. The *HR Toolkit* focuses on five areas: skilled staff, setting goals, positive workplaces, health and safety, and planning and organizing. Access to the online *HR Toolkit* costs \$55 per company location and can be purchased at [www.printHRtoolkit.ca](http://www.printHRtoolkit.ca).

"HR management practices can increase business efficiency, and therefore this new online *HR Toolkit* is a much-needed and affordable resource for the industry," commented Jeff Ekstein, CPISC Co-Chair. "The *Toolkit* costs less than an online HR course and is tailored specifically for the sector, making it a new staple for the vast majority of Canadian printing and graphic communications firms."

Both of these new resources were launched at CPISC's 5<sup>th</sup> annual Industry Forum, Print: High Five, which was held in Toronto on June 3, 2011. Afternoon seminars at the conference shed light on the practical applications of both new resources. The Council also celebrated its fifth anniversary at the event.

*The Canadian Printing Industries Sector Council (CPISC) is a national forum that collaborates with printing and graphic communications industry employers, employees, educators, suppliers and representatives of governments to create and implement innovative strategies for skills development and progressive HR management practices. In doing so, CPISC enables all key players in the printing and graphic communications industry to work together in partnership to improve the quality of the industry's current and future workforce. More information about CPISC is available at [www.cpisc-csic.ca](http://www.cpisc-csic.ca).*

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