



## **E7 Technologies Work Ready Testimonial**

E7 Technologies, based in Thomaston, evaluates and refurbishes plastics and batteries for cell phones and other wireless devices, working with major manufacturers across the country. Like any enterprise, E7 depends on its workforce to produce outstanding results and, with help from Georgia Work Ready, the company can be sure it has the right people in the right jobs.

Workers in the sanding area are responsible for hand-sanding external cell phone batteries. Manual dexterity is certainly important, but basic math and reading skills, and the ability to locate information, are also essential. Since different manufacturers have different refurbishment specifications, E7's employees must be able to find a given battery on a chart in order to know how to process it. Skills the Work Ready assessment quantifies.

Carlotta SantaRomana, E7's human resources manager, first learned about Work Ready thanks to her county's efforts to become a Certified Work Ready Community. Managers and supervisors at E7 took the Work Ready assessment about a year ago, and now all job applicants are required to take the assessment in order to be considered for employment.

"We receive so many applications," SantaRomana said. "The Work Ready assessment is an excellent way to measure skills that are needed to perform the job successfully."

In addition to screening new applicants, the company also had its current employees take the assessment. E7 encouraged its workers who scored below a certain threshold to take advantage of free skills gap training in order to improve their skill level. Workers who performed exceptionally well now have more opportunities for advancement,

The company is currently working with experts from Flint River Technical College to profile an entry-level job in its battery sanding area to determine what skills are necessary for success. "We're starting with our sanding area because that is primarily the area that we hire into," said SantaRomana.

"Work Ready can be a win-win situation for both employers and job seekers by simplifying the hiring process and helping applicants increase their skill level through gap training, thereby making them more employable," SantaRomana said. "We're very excited about Work Ready. This is going to be the future of Thomaston – and Georgia."

For more information on how your company can participate in Work Ready, visit [www.gaworkready.org](http://www.gaworkready.org).

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