



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Codi Spodnik (541) 773-8946

SOREDI Hosts Tour of Central Point Innovators

SOREDI members are invited to attend the next Industry Tour, which will feature innovative businesses in and around Central Point; Silly Zak's Gluten Free Bakery, Bierson Corporation, Quantum Innovations and Erickson, including a lunch at Rogue Regency Grill. This exclusive members-only event is designed to give participants the opportunity to learn about the diversity of businesses based in this two-county region. While touring these interesting locations, participants often learn about hidden employment opportunities and have the ability to network with SOREDI members, regional school district administrators and elected officials.

The tour will take place from 8:15 am to 3:15 pm, Wednesday, December 6. Participants will meet at 8:15 am at Rogue Regency Inn, 2300 Biddle Road in Medford. The cost to SOREDI Members is \$40. These tours are members-only events, made possible by co-sponsors BlueCross BlueShield and US Bank. Lunch at Rogue Regency Grill is included and transportation is provided by RVTB.

Begin your day at 8:15 am for coffee and a light breakfast at Rogue Regency Inn. The first stop on the tour will be Silly Zak's Gluten Free Bakery. Established in 2010, Silly Zak's Gluten Free Foods are produced in a dedicated wheat free and gluten free commercial facility. All of their delicious products are made with all natural ingredients, no additives or preservatives and are free from GMO and rBST. With products distributed from Washington to Southern California, it might be your lucky day if they have some samples on hand! Next on the tour is Bierson Corporation. Bierson Corporation fashions three-dimensional surfaces that simulate leather, wood-grain, stone, metal, high-gloss finishes, and almost any eye-catching etched pattern that can be imagined, out of medium-density fiberboard (MDF). Their reputation for providing stunning, high-quality products on-time allows them to work with some of the nation's top brands, right in Central Point!

Lunch at Rogue Regency Grill provides a conversation break before the next two stops on the tour. Quantum Innovations is another national company, helping the ophthalmic industry see better solutions by creating value-based, customer-centered products in Central Point. Quantum Innovation specializes in ultraviolet (UV) and anti-reflective (AR) coating technology, including the new FusionM[®] in-line coating system that you may be able to see in action. If you wear glasses and work at a computer, it is very likely that Quantum Innovations has improved your life in a very direct way! The final stop will be a tour of

Erickson's Central Point facility. You will be able to see their amazing heavy lift helicopters, in addition to the fabrication and testing of the parts that keep these vital machines ready to perform in critical situations, faster, better, cheaper and greener than other alternatives, all over the globe. The bus will return you to your car at Rogue Regency Inn by 3:15 pm. Dana Shumate, Business Services Manager for the Rogue Workforce Partnership helps to facilitate private business needs with local educational offerings and has attended many SOREDI Industry Tours. Shumate says, "Our educators gather 'real world' knowledge that they can take back to the classroom and apply directly to their lessons with students." Shumate continues, "SOREDI's Industry Tours provide invaluable experiences for our educators that end up benefitting the whole community!"

About SOREDI: SOREDI is a private, membership-based, non-profit organization, governed by a board of directors. Its seven-person staff is charged with local business expansion and new business recruitment efforts, financial assistance to start-up companies through its business loan fund, and management of Enterprise Zones in Jackson and Josephine Counties. The agency was formed as a regional economic development agency in 1987. Learn more at <https://www.soredi.org>.