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## Digital Domain to have Tech Job Fair on Saturday in Port St. Lucie

By Eric Pfahler

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PORT ST. LUCIE — Digital Domain Holdings Corp. is speeding up its hiring and is having a Tech Job Fair to help do so, the company announced at a press conference Monday.

Artists and other skilled workers seeking jobs with Digital Domain Holdings are encouraged to attend the company's Tech Job Fair on Saturday.

The event will run from 8 a.m. to noon at Digital Domain Park, formerly known as Tradition Field.

Applicants do not need a college degree or experience, though they should have talent. Job seekers with portfolios and/or demo reels should bring those to the job fair. The company plans to hire positions needed for upcoming digital visual effects projects. Those hired will get to work on big film projects.

"This is not a generic job fair," said John Textor, the company's chairman and chief executive officer. "This job fair is about finding specific people that are highly specialized, that are extremely competent in computer graphics applications (and) digital media applications."

The announcement comes on the heels of Textor telling Port St. Lucie City Council the company plans to hire 200 people shortly. Textor said Monday the company expects to make those hires within the next six to nine months. Digital Domain Holdings must hire 500 by 2014 in exchange for a \$20 million incentive deal from the state.

The 500 hires must make an average of \$65,000, though Textor said the average salary for the company's 54 employees is more than \$100,000. Wages for jobs offered at the job fair were not released. Port St. Lucie gave the company a \$51.8 million incentive package to build a 150,000-square-foot studio in Tradition. Textor said construction should be complete by December 2011.

Of the current hires, more than three-fourths had ties to or lived in Florida prior to taking on a role within the company. Textor said he was surprised by how many employees came from Florida.

“We thought we were going to have to get our first 20, 30, 40 leading people in the studio from the California marketplace or the New York marketplace to really seed the studio properly here,” Textor said. “And then over time, we would take advantage of this Florida-based workforce more and more.

“We’re pleasantly surprised that so many of our first 50 or so employees are from Florida.”

Because so many employees have come from Florida, Textor said he is confident the job fair will produce quality applicants.

“I think we’ll be disappointed if we didn’t identify at least 200 highly qualified potential digital artists,” Textor said. “This is sort of the first handshake. You don’t hire people just off of resumes in our industry. Chemistry within the studio is very important.”

### **Job Fair**

When: 8 a.m. to noon Saturday

Where: Digital Domain Park, 525 N.W. Peacock Blvd., Port St. Lucie

Online: Visit [www.ddhfl.com](http://www.ddhfl.com) to pre-register or find more information.

### **Here are the types of jobs Digital Domain Holdings Corp. is offering:**

Production management

Production support

Artists

Technology positions

Those interested are encouraged to bring resumes, portfolios and demo reels



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