



## Nevada Department of Agriculture



## Nevada Department of Corrections

### PRESS RELEASE

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The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) saved more than \$18,000 by teaming with the Department of Corrections (NDOC) to create a custom piece of equipment, which was built by inmate workers, and will boost efficiency and productivity for state inspections of fuel pumps.

NDOC's Silver State Industries (SSI) designed and built a fuel-proving trailer that will test more gas pumps during each inspection and collect both gasoline and diesel at the same time. The trailer enables inspectors to test volume measurements at gas stations, ensuring that consumers receive the precise amount of gas per dollar, and will be used in Elko, Humboldt, Eureka and White Pine Counties. It will enable the NDA to reduce the time spent at each station significantly increasing productivity and saving tax dollars.

"We are very pleased with the work done by Silver State Industries," said Bart O'Toole, administrator for the NDA Consumer Equitability Division. "This new trailer will allow us to increase our efficiency by 25 percent in rural northern Nevada, conserving valuable state time and resources."

SSI worked closely with NDA staff to design the trailer from the ground up. Built out of aluminum and stainless steel, the prover trailer was crafted by inmate welders who are certified through the American Welding Society.

"Training inmate workers and building products that make business more efficient is exactly what prison industries is all about," explained NDOC Deputy Director Brian Connett. "This project was good for the state and good for the inmate workers who learned a marketable skill which increases their ability to find meaningful work once they get released from prison."

The Nevada Department of Corrections Silver State Industries is a self-funded program training 400 + inmate workers at various correctional facilities throughout the state. Workers learn skills such as welding, fabrication, textiles, wood working, print and book binding, soft skills such as a good work ethic, and other job skills in an effort to boost their chance of employment and reduce recidivism.

The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) promotes a business climate that is fair, economically viable and encourages environmental stewardship that serves to protect food, fiber and human health and safety through effective service and education. The NDA includes the divisions of Administration, Animal Industry, Consumer Equitability, Food and Nutrition and Plant Industry.

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