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# News Release

## **The Precisionists, Inc., and Tesla Industries, Inc., Launch Pilot Program to Support Employment of Individuals with Autism**

### **The program will create technology manufacturing jobs in Delaware**

New Castle, DE – August 1, 2017 – Tesla Industries, Inc. today announced the launch of a pilot program that aims to provide employment opportunities to adults with autism. The program, formed in collaboration with The Precisionists, an organization that creates jobs for individuals across a broad range of disabilities, will begin in the Electronic Assembly division of Tesla Industries in New Castle, DE.

"With the launch of this pilot program, Tesla Industries is strengthening its commitment to workplace inclusion and to creating career opportunities for an often underutilized talent pool," said Dave Masilotti, CEO of Tesla Industries. "I am thrilled that Tesla is engaging in such a worthwhile undertaking, and confident it will demonstrate the talent and contribution that people on the autism spectrum can make."

Individuals taking part in the pilot program will be employed by The Precisionists, and will carry out project-based work for Tesla, assembling electronic circuit boards, and assembling power conversion units on a contract basis. They are also performing quality control functions in the manufacturing process. They will be provided with four weeks of training, utilizing the methodology of Specialisterne, a nonprofit launched by Thorkil Sonne that offers programs for talent and career development to autistic individuals. The ultimate goal will be to expand this autism employment model to other functional areas within Tesla Industries. The Precisionists envisions employing 10,000 people with disabilities in the US by 2025.

"When properly assessed, trained and employed, people with autism are extremely high performing employees in critical and challenging jobs such as electronic assembly, software testing and data analytics," said Ernie Dianastasis, CEO of The Precisionists. "When you consider that more than 70% of people with autism in the country are either unemployed or underemployed, we are making a true difference in engaging a significant untapped, high-performing labor force right here in Delaware."



"While we still are early in the pilot, it is already apparent that the autistic professionals from The Precisionists are highly competent, with an attention to detail and an ability to deliver high quality results in our manufacturing environment," said Dave Masilotti. "With 1 in every 68 people in the world affected, supporting people with autism is increasingly important to our community and clients. We are proud to launch this pilot program with Tesla Industries," said Ernie Dianastasis.

#### **Media**

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#### **Notes to editors.**

#### **About Tesla Industries, Inc.**

Tesla Industries, Inc., is based in New Castle, DE. Tesla™ Industries designs, manufactures, tests and supports state of the art power conversion systems in New Castle, Delaware, USA. They specialize in systems that provide power for 12 and 24 volt vehicles and aircraft. The Turbo Start™ portable ground power systems, the MPU (Micro Power Unit) Aviation Battery Systems and the Cobra™ series of connectors and cables are the primary products.

Tesla™ units operate and support vehicles, aircraft and equipment that are extremely complex and expensive. Their customers have highly technical requirements and demand equipment that will work in remote and harsh environments. While other companies have chosen to outsource many of their processes, they believe in doing as much in-house as possible. By continuously expanding its manufacturing capabilities, they are able to ensure quality, guarantee their supply line, and control costs. Learn more at [www.teslaind.com](http://www.teslaind.com).

#### **About The Precisionists**

The Precisionists, Inc. (TPI), a B-Corporation, is a national company focused on providing industry best practices for delivering administrative and technology services by building teams which include individuals with disabilities. This approach enables The Precisionists to meet each customer's specific needs, and to deliver projects with the highest degree of productivity. The Precisionists is dedicated to creating jobs for individuals with disabilities in all the markets it serves. The Precisionists, Inc. is headquartered in Wilmington, DE. Learn more at [www.theprecisionists.com](http://www.theprecisionists.com).