

CL^{OSER} LOOK

Skillset Group Staffing Brings Innovation, Quality, and Passion to Town



Grand opening for Skillset Group, located at 7300 Alondra Blvd., #202, Paramount.

There's a new resource in Paramount for local businesses in their drive to be more efficient and more profitable. Skillset Group is an expert staffing company that provides a variety of employee and human resources services.

"We match great people – who have the highest skills and a passion for what they do – with great employers that need problems solved and long-term employee stability," said Skillset Group CEO Clint Armstrong.

Skillset specializes in working with the aerospace and defense industries, food and beverage companies, and industrial manufacturing in plastics, consumer products, and automotive. That's what brought them to Paramount, which is a hub for these various sectors.

Also, Skillset's Chief Marketing Officer Jose Baca is a Paramount native who has been in staffing for 13 years and has strong ties to the community. "He has worked with a lot of local companies and has family here," Armstrong said. "Between Jose and our involvement with the Chamber of Commerce, we feel we're in a good position to be a positive force in town."

"We started in 2013 with co-founders Steve Viera and Steve Coppola, expanded from San Clemente to Santa Ana and now opened our new location in Paramount two months ago," Armstrong continued. "Our revenue growth has tripled or quadrupled every year, and we have close to 200 external consultants along with 25 internal recruiters."

Skillset offers three distinct services.

"Direct Hire" involves job candidate searches – at all levels, from entry to executive – with the client paying a one-time fee.

"Temp-to-Hire" provides a company with an employee that works for Skillset for 90 days before transitioning to the employer's payroll, thus relieving the client of the time and costs related to the hiring process.

And with the "Temporary Workforce" service, the worker is actually Skillset's employee, so the client doesn't have the liabilities and costs involved with hiring someone themselves.

Armstrong has degrees in accounting and finance with an emphasis in real estate and venture capital finance from the University of San Diego, and spent five years in commercial real estate leasing before forming the company, which strives to be innovative and cutting-edge.

"We do things a little differently," he related. "We were one of the first staffing companies to partner with our clients by taking stock and ownership instead of charging fees. In that way, we become a real vested partner."

These arrangements are often with start-up companies with Series A or B funding, he explained. "If they don't have an HR Department, we assume that role and aid their growth and support their continuous move forward in their entrepreneurial goals."

Apart from the services Skillset offers, Armstrong emphasized that they focus on connecting with the community, as well.



From left; Chief Marketing Officer Jose Baca (Skillset Group), Paramount Chamber of Commerce President Brenda Olmos (AppleCare Medical Group), and Skillset Group CEO/Founder, Clint Armstrong.

"We want to help area employers and local employees, help people find jobs, better paying jobs, safer jobs. We align ourselves with good companies, who operate with integrity and responsibility. And we are already in love

with the Paramount community.

"These are just some of the values we are now bringing to Paramount."

Skillset Group is located at 7300 Alondra Blvd, Ste. 202; phone, (866) 375-3094.



From left; Chief Marketing Officer Jose Baca (Skillset Group), CEO/Founder Clint Armstrong (Skillset Group), and Paramount Chamber of Commerce Senior Vice President Jon Tanklage (Marukan Vinegar USA).



Skillset Group Chief Marketing Officer Jose Baca with his wife Veronica Ortiz and son Mateo Baca.