**February 2012 - Popsicle Scheduling**



Workforce management is central to efficient operations and good customer service.  Proper scheduling of employees can mean the difference between profitability and business failure.

As the manager of a popsicle stand, you are required to hire and set the weekly work schedule for your employees.  The required staffing levels for the week are as follows.  Total employees required: Monday=5, Tuesday=7, Wednesday=7, Thursday=10, Friday=16, Saturday=18, Sunday=12.  Assume the same staffing requirements continue week after week.

Full Time employees work 5 consecutive days and earn $100 per day.  Part Time employees work 2 consecutive days and earn $150 per day.

**Question:  What is the minimal weekly staffing cost you can achieve while meeting the required staffing levels?**