

SCMBDC to Honor Minority Entrepreneurs

Tuesday June 13, 1:00 pm ET

22nd Annual Supplier of the Year Awards Luncheon to Be Held July 6

LOS ANGELES--(BUSINESS WIRE)--June 13, 2006--Southern California Minority Business Development Council, the region's leading minority business advocacy organization, will be honoring outstanding minority entrepreneurs at its 22nd Annual Supplier of the Year Awards luncheon on July 6 at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel, located at 251 S. Olive St.

The event, which will be held from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., celebrates the outstanding performance of minority business enterprises (MBEs) in their contracts with SCMBDC corporate members.

Under the program, MBEs are judged on their demonstrated growth, development and ability to create jobs; utilization of other MBEs; business performance in their contracts, including providing quality products and services, cost savings and innovative solutions; overcoming major obstacles and adversities; and community involvement.

One winner in each class category will be selected, based on annual sales of less than \$1 million (Class I), between \$1 million and \$10 million (Class II), between \$10 million and \$50 million (Class III), and \$50 million and greater (Class IV). To be considered for an award, a minority business must be nominated by an SCMBDC corporate member and certified as a minority business by the council or National Minority Supplier Development Council.

This year, there are 42 Supplier of the Year award nominees, employing more than 12,000 people and having gross annual sales of more than \$3.5 billion, according to John W. Murray, president of the council.

Title sponsors for this year's event are American Honda Motor Co., Inc. and Wells Fargo & Co. Bob Din, president and CEO of En Pointe Technologies, Inc., will be the keynote speaker.

The following corporate members provided nominations for 2006 Supplier of the Year awards: American Honda Motor Co., Inc., Chevron Corporation, Coca-Cola, Countrywide, Hyundai Motor America, Kaiser Permanente, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Northrop Grumman Corporate Offices, Northrop Grumman Space Technology, Nissan, Raytheon, Southern California Edison, Southern California Gas Co., Toyota Motor Sales, Wal-Mart, WellPoint, Wells Fargo & Co., and xpedx.

Award nominees include: Coseree's Kitchen, Bakersfield; PhotoVisions, Culver City; Project View, Bakersfield; Tailored Baskets, Inc., Santa Ana; ASV (Andry Specialty Vehicles) Inc., Torrance; Applied Research West, Inc., Los Alamitos; Coast Aerospace Mfg., Huntington Beach; Code Precast Products, Inc., Shafter; Cut Core Demolition, Inc., Montebello; DPI, Carson; Empire Building and Environmental Services, Inc., Anaheim; Faison Office Products, LLC, Aurora, Colo.; FCI Management Consultants, Commerce; Hub City Pallet, Inglewood; Icon Blue, Los Angeles; ISComp Systems, Inc., Los Angeles; L & M Marketing, Inc., Costa Mesa; Perfect Link, City of Industry; Pro Tool Services, Inc., Bakersfield; Saalex Solutions, Inc., Oxnard; Seena Technologies Corp., Santa Monica; Specialized Marketing Services, Irvine; Think Ink, Gardena; V.R. & Associates, Huntington Beach; A.M. Ortega Construction, Lakeside; APR Consulting, Diamond Bar; Award Packaging Specialty, Commerce; Cabral Roofing and Waterproofing Corp., Montebello; Campos Creative Works, Inc., Santa Monica; CC-OPS, Inc., Culver City; Diverse Staffing Solutions, Fullerton; Imada Wong Communications, West Hollywood; Intertrend, Long Beach; Pacific Crossing, Irvine; Rodbat (RMI), Downey; T.J. Cross Engineers, Inc., Bakersfield; Burrell Communications, LLC, Chicago; GST (Golden Star Technology, Inc.), Brea; Montebello Container Corp., Santa Fe Springs; OneSource Distributors, Oceanside; Software House International, Somerset, N.J.; and US Metro Group, Inc., Los Angeles.

Local winners go on to regional and national competition; regional and national winners will be recognized at NMSDC's annual conference on Nov. 1 in San Diego. The national competition takes place later this year at NMSDC's headquarters in New York City.

NMSDC introduced the program in 1981 as a way of measuring the success of circulating corporate dollars into the minority business community. As an affiliate of the national council, SCMBDC has participated in the program since 1985.

For information, tickets or sponsorship opportunities for the 2006 Supplier of the Year awards luncheon, contact Shawn Smith at 213-689-6940, or visit www.scmbdc.org.

Southern California Minority Business Development Council, the region's leading minority business advocacy organization, serves more than 1,000 minority business enterprises and 200 corporate members throughout 13 counties. Founded in 1975 and headquartered in Los Angeles, with chapters in Orange County and the Central Valley, it is one of 39 regional councils in the National Minority Supplier Development Council.