10th Annual Small Business Conference

**Theme:** “Army & Small Business: Partners For Success”

November 1 - 2, 2006 • Hilton McLean Hotel at Tysons Corner • McLean, Virginia

**Featured Speakers:**

- **Mr. Steven Preston,** Administrator, US Small Business Administration
- **Hon Claude M. Bolton, Jr.,** Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology)
- **GEN Benjamin S. Griffin,** USA, Commanding General, AMC
- **Ms. Elaine C. Duke,** Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security
- **Ms. Tracey L. Pinson,** Director, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Office of the Secretary of the Army
- **Mr. Steven Marion,** Senior Program Director, Future Combat Systems, The Boeing Company
- **Mr. Randy Gardiner,** President, Red Dot Corporation
- **Mr. Vikram Verma,** President & CEO, Savi Technology, a Lockheed Martin Company

**ONSITE AGENDA**

**Key Benefits of Attending:**

- Meet Government decision makers who set policies & conduct acquisitions
- Learn firsthand about available business opportunities with Government & leading large businesses
- Exchange information & ideas directly with senior leaders of Government & small businesses
- Find out what’s new or changed that affects small businesses

Sponsored by the National Defense Industrial Association

www.ndia.org
Providing for the Nation’s security requires an effective partnership between the Federal Government and the small business community. Small business is “big business” in the Army. Last year the Army awarded $20.4 billion in direct contracts. Small businesses received an even greater amount in contracts with major defense firms. Despite having the smallest budget of the three military departments, the Army has awarded the highest dollar amount of prime contracts to small businesses for each of the last six years.

This conference brings together leaders of the industry small business community and the government (Small Business Administration and Army) to discuss timely topics, including recent changes affecting small businesses. Participants will include key Government decision makers from Washington to field commanders who conduct acquisitions. The conference provides a forum for open exchange of information and ideas between senior government officials and small business leaders.

The Business Opportunities Fair is an important part of the conference. Representatives from the Army’s major buying commands will be present to discuss future opportunities for small businesses in their respective commands. In addition, representatives from the top 50 large business defense contractors will be there to discuss small business opportunities with their firms. Army personnel will be available to address individual contractor’s questions and concerns.

Breakout sessions will be presented on timely subjects of special interest. The agenda offers a variety of topics designed to meet the varying needs of contractors present.

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**10th Annual Small Business Conference**

**“Army & Small Business: Partners for Success”**

**Conference-At-A-Glance**

**Wednesday, November 1, 2006**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration Opens, Display Set-Up Begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Administrative Remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:05 PM</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Introduction to the Conference—Lt Gen Lawrence P. Farrell, Jr., USAF (Ret), President &amp; CEO, NDIA</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:10 PM</td>
<td>Opening Remarks—GEN Benjamin S. Griffin, USA, Commanding General (AMC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:40 PM</td>
<td>Continuing Opportunities for Small Businesses—Hon Claude M. Bolton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Update on the State of the Army Small Business Program—Ms. Tracey L. Pinson, Director, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Office of the Secretary of the Army</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>The Outlook for Small Business—Mr. Joel Szabat, Chief of Staff, US Small Business Administration</td>
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<td>5:45-7:45 PM</td>
<td>Networking Reception in the Display Area</td>
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**Thursday, November 2, 2006**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Continental Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:50 AM</td>
<td>Administrative Remarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Recognition of AMC Small Business Person of the Year—Presented by: GEN Benjamin S. Griffin, USA, Commanding General, (AMC)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:05 AM</td>
<td>PANEL: “Industry Insights”—Mr. Randy Gardiner, President, Red Dot Corporation, Mr. Vikram Verma, President &amp; CEO, Savi Technology, a Lockheed Martin Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:55 AM</td>
<td>PANEL: “Assistance &amp; Opportunities”—Ms. Elaine C. Duke, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Mr. Lee Thompson, Assistant Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy &amp; Procurement) - Iraq/Afghanistan, HQs, Department of the Army, Ms. Wendy Despres, Mentor-Protégé Program &amp; Subcontracting, Office of Small &amp; Disadvantaged Business Utilization, HQs, Department of the Army, Mr. Steve Marion, Senior Program Director, Supplier Management, FCS, The Boeing Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>Morning Break in the Display Area</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>PANEL: “Open Question Period”—Moderator: Mr. Jeffrey Parsons, Director, Command Contracting, US Army Materiel Command—Panelists: Ms. Marlene Cruze, Executive Director, Acquisition Center, US Army Aviation and Missile Command, Mr. Edward Elgart, Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC), US Army Communications-Electronics Command, Mr. Martin Green, Acting PARC, US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command, Mr. James Loehrl, PARC, US Army Field Support Command, Mr. James Warrington, Director of Contracting, US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Acquisition Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:35 AM</td>
<td>Matching Your Personnel Requirements with Available Talent—Mr. Steven R. Clark, Director, Military Severely Injured Center, Pentagon Detachment, Department of Defense</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:50 AM</td>
<td>Luncheon (Ballroom C and Martinique’s)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>CONCURRENT ACTIVITIES</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Business Opportunities Fair</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>Conference Adjourns</td>
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Representatives of each AMC major subordinate command, the National Guard, Army Contracting Agency; Corps of Engineers; Medical Command; and the Defense Contracting Command-Washington, will be present to discuss future business opportunities, and to address individual contractor concerns.

The Special Interest Topics will be presented during the afternoon. Presentations will begin at 1:00 pm with multiple topics running concurrently, each in a separate room and repeated. Each session will take about 40 minutes with the time evenly divided for presentation comments/questions. Breakout Session Topics descriptions are listed on page 4.
Panel Topics & Breakout Session Topics

PANELS
8:05 AM: “Industry Insights”
- “A Lean Management Journey”
  - Mr. Randy Gardiner, President, Red Dot Corporation
- “Perspectives of a Small Business and Large Business CEO”
  - Mr. Vikram Verma, President & CEO, Savi Technology, a Lockheed Martin Company

8:55 AM: “Assistance & Opportunities”
- “Business Opportunities with DHS”
  - Ms. Elaine Duke, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
  - Support of Operations in Iraq & Afghanistan”
  - Mr. Lee Thompson, Assistant Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy & Procurement) - Iraq/Afghanistan, HQs, Department of the Army
- “Opportunities Through the Army Mentor-Protégé Program”
  - Ms. Wendy Despres, Mentor-Protégé Program & Subcontracting, Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization, HQs, Department of the Army
- “Business Opportunities with Future Combat Systems”
  - Mr. Steve Marion, Senior Program Director, Supplier Management, FCS, The Boeing Company

10:30 AM: “Open Question Period”
Moderator:
- Mr. Jeffrey Parsons, Director, Command Contracting, US Army Materiel Command
Panelists:
- Ms. Marlene Cruze, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Mr. Edward Elgart, Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC), US Army Communications-Electronics Command
- Ms. Martin Green, Acting PARC, US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command
- Mr. James Loehrl, PARC, US Army Field Support Command
- Mr. James Warrington, Director of Contracting, US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Acquisition Center

CONCURRENT ACTIVITIES: BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES FAIR AND BREAKOUT SESSIONS

The following topics will be presented during the afternoon. Presentations will begin at 1:00 pm with multiple topics running concurrently, each in a separate room and repeated. Each session will take about 40 minutes with the time evenly divided for presentation comments/questions.

1:00 PM
- “What You Need to Know Before You Team/Partner”
  - Ms. January Dennison, President, Technology Resource Consultants, Inc.

Synopsis - Alliances are formed for a variety of reasons: an increased complexity in the customer base; increased complexity of the channels used to produce products or sell them to customers; lack of knowledge or capabilities in computer applications or operating systems; the desire to achieve a wide choice of options in labor management issues; a desire to minimize investments by shifting them off the balance sheet; the ability to acquire new, dedicated assets such as warehouse facilities or transportation equipment; the need to improve customer performance levels, such as fill order rate or on-time deliveries; a desire to outsource new products or services to minimize/reduce downsize risks; the need to compress the product or service development process to gain competitive advantage; a desire to gain new process or product/service technologies by relying on partner’s expertise; the ability to access or enter new markets immediately due to the partner’s core competencies, expertise and local knowledge; a desire to shift operations that are difficult to perform or subject to complex administrative work; the ability to release employees from non-core activities so that the firm can concentrate on the activities that it does best; or, the desire to downsize staffs or departments.

Therefore, when exploring opportunities for forming an alliance, it’s important to explore every facet of the business. This presentation will provide an overview on the process, questions and implementation strategies that can effectively integrate one or more activities, processes or services across companies. Areas of interest will include: Business Re-engineering, Partnership Drivers, Partner Selection Methods and Managing a Long Term Partnership.
Panel Topics & Breakout Session Topics

• “Tips and Opportunities Available for Small Businesses”
  - Mr. Jim Regan, Executive Director, Procurement Technical Assistance Program, George Mason University

Synopsis - An overview of local and Internet based resources which can help companies more effectively pursue their government business objectives. In addition to how to find local resources and the services available through nationwide programs, such as Small Business Development and Procurement Technical Assistance Centers, the presentation will highlight a number of sites that any company interested in government procurement must have as part of their knowledge base. Many of these, such as GSA’s Federal Supply Schedule Virtual University and Federal Procurement Data Base, are extracted from one of the more popular George Mason University’s PTAP seminars entitled “Internet for Government Contractors.”

• “Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) Opportunities”
  - Ms. Susan Nichols, Program Manager, SBIR, US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command

Synopsis - This session provides attendees with the description of, and the means to, participate in R&D opportunities funded through the two Army programs with an annual budget of approximately $260M. SBIR funds high impact, dual-use technology projects deemed critical to the Army in ten broad areas of Science and Technology. The overall objectives of SBIR are to stimulate technological innovation, increase small business participation in federal R&D, increase private sector commercialization of technological advances developed with federal R&D, and increase participation by woman-owned and socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses. STTR joins the talents of small businesses and research institutions to quickly move ideas from the laboratory to the marketplace. SBIR and STTR projects are funded in two phases: Phase I (feasibility) lasts about six months with a budget not exceeding $70K for SBIR and $100K for STTR, and Phase II (product development) lasts about two years with a maximum total budget of $750K.

• “The Route to ISO 9000 Qualification”
  - Mr. Jay Jacobowitz, Team Leader, National Logistics Qualification Office, AMC

Synopsis - This session provides attendees an overview of what the ISO 9000 series is all about. It will also indicate why a firm should be ISO qualified, how it can help your competitive position, what is involved in qualifying, along with the time required to qualify and the costs involved.

• “Industry Partnership Opportunities with AMC”
  - Mr. Ronald Davis, Deputy Chief of Staff for Business Transformation, G7, HQs, AMC

Synopsis - This session will provide information on the Army Materiel Command (AMC) Partnership Program to include defining a partnership, the goal and objectives of the program, examples of current partnerships, and how your firm might participate in the program. AMC has significant industrial capabilities in its depots and manufacturing arsenals, which can be used to supplement work by private sector firms in meeting defense requirements and performing some commercial work. These capabilities include facilities, specialized equipment and tooling, and an available trained workforce. AMC’s goal is to develop mutually beneficial relationships that build on the strengths of each partner and create increased value.

• “Preparing Your Proposals to Win More Contracts”
  - Mr. Robert Spitzbarth, Procurement Analyst, Acquisition Center, US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Life Cycle Management Command

Synopsis - This breakout session is designed to help Small Businesses compete more effectively under RFPs where award will be made on a Source Selection Trade-off basis. Topics include: (a) how to better read and understand the RFP evaluation criteria and basis of award, (b) responding to evaluation criteria involving assessments of Proposal Risk (e.g. Technical Approach) and Performance Risk (Past Performance), (c) when to expect the conduct of Discussions, (d) understanding the Government’s Source Selection decision making process for selecting the winner, and (e) top messages and tips for competing more effectively.

• “Future Combat Systems - Business Opportunities & Supplier Management”
  - Mr. Audry Musgrove, Lead Systems Integrator, Future Combat Systems, The Boeing Company

Synopsis - This breakout session will build on and provide more detail than the formal presentation on Thursday morning. It will enable small businesses to learn more about current and upcoming business opportunities by talking directly to representatives from firms now engaged in FCS activities. Technology areas of interest include, but are not limited to, Embedded Training Software, Network Intrusion Detection, Advanced Data Mining, Advanced Robotic Controls, and Modeling & Simulation Tools.
# Schedule of Breakout Sessions
**November 2, 2006**

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<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
<th>Time 1:00 pm - 1:40 pm</th>
<th>Time 1:50 pm - 2:30 pm</th>
<th>Time 2:40 pm - 3:20 pm</th>
<th>Time 3:30 pm - 4:10 pm</th>
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<tr>
<td>“What you need to Know Before you Team/Partner”</td>
<td>McLean Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Ms. January Dennison</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Tips and Opportunities Available for Small Businesses”</td>
<td>Fairfax Room</td>
<td>Fairfax Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Mr. Jim Regan</td>
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<tr>
<td>“Industry Partnership Opportunites with AMC”</td>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Mr. Ron Davis</td>
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<tr>
<td>“The Route to ISO 9000 Qualification”</td>
<td>Gunston Room</td>
<td>Gunston Room</td>
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<td>- Ms. Joan Ales, Mr. Steve Terronez</td>
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<td>FCS Business Opportunities and Supplier Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Ms. Audry Musgrove</td>
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<tr>
<td>“SBIR Opportunities”</td>
<td>Ballroom B</td>
<td>Ballroom B</td>
<td>Ballroom B</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Ms. Susan Nichols</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visit our Business Opportunities Fair</td>
<td>Ballroom A</td>
<td>Ballroom A</td>
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McLean, Fairfax Rooms, Ballroom A & B are located on the lobby level. All other breakout rooms are on the lower level.
**Speaker Biographies**

**Gen Benjamin S. Griffin, USA, Commanding General, (AMC)**

General Benjamin S. Griffin assumed the duties of Commanding General, US Army Materiel Command on November 5, 2004. Prior to this assignment, he served as the Department of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8.

General Griffin began his career when he was commissioned as an Infantry Officer in July 1970 following graduation from Officer Candidate School, Fort Benning, Georgia. He served two tours at Fort Bragg, North Carolina in the 82nd Airborne Division: in the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 508th Infantry as a rifle platoon leader and company executive officer, and in the 3rd Battalion (Airborne), 325th Infantry as a commander of Company C and a S-3 Air (Operations) officer. General Griffin also worked as a G3 operations officer, Headquarters, 82nd Airborne Division.

General Griffin’s overseas assignments included a tour in Korea as a Company Commander and Brigade S-2 in the 2nd Infantry Division. He served two tours in Germany in the 8th Infantry Division as Secretary of the General Staff and Mechanized Infantry Battalion Executive Officer in the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 87th Infantry. He was also Commander of the 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment.

His later assignments included: Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Army in Washington, D.C., and Commander of the 2nd Brigade, 6th Infantry Division (Light) in Alaska. In August 1994, he served as Executive Officer to the Commanding General, US Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia.

Following his assignment in Georgia, General Griffin took command of Joint Task Force 6, Fort Bliss, Texas. He then served as the Assistant Division Commander (Support), 1st Cavalry Division in Fort Hood, Texas.

In July 1997, he became the Director of Force Programs, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans in Washington, D.C. General Griffin returned to Fort Hood from June 1999 to October 2001 to command the 4th Infantry Division.

General Griffin’s awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit (with three Oak Leaf Clusters), the Meritorious Service Medal (with four Oak Leaf Clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (with one Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Achievement Medal (with one Oak Leaf Cluster), the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, the Master Parachutist Badge, the Expert Infantry Badge, and the Army General Staff Badge.

General Griffin received a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Management from Old Dominion University in 1969 and a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Mercer University in 1981.

His military education includes the Infantry Officer Advanced Course, Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces at the National Defense University.

**Hon Claude M. Bolton, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Army**

Claude M. Bolton was sworn in Wednesday, January 2, 2002, as Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) (ASA(ALT)).

In this position, Mr. Bolton serves as the Army Acquisition Executive, the Senior Procurement Executive, and the Science Advisor to the Secretary. Also, he serves as the senior research and development official for the Department of the Army. Among his responsibilities as ASA(ALT) are: appointing, managing and evaluating Program Executive Officers and Program Managers; managing the Army Acquisition Corps; and overseeing research, development, test, evaluation and acquisition programs.

Formerly Mr. Bolton was Commander, Air Force Security Assistance Center, Headquarters Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. He managed foreign military sales programs with totals exceeding $90 billion that support more than 80 foreign countries. As AFMC’s center of excellence for international affairs, his responsibilities also included managing the command’s international cooperative programs and its foreign disclosure policy.

Mr. Bolton received his commission in the Air Force in 1969 through the University of Nebraska’s Air Force ROTC program, where he was honored as a distinguished graduate. He has served in a variety of positions during his career. His duties include squadron and wing safety officer, instructor pilot, wing standardization and evaluation flight examiner, scheduler, test pilot and acquisition professional. He is a command pilot with more than 2,700 flying hours in more than 30 different aircrafts. During the Vietnam War he flew 232 combat missions, 40 over North Vietnam. He was a test pilot for the F-4, F-111 and the F-16, and the first program manager for the Advanced Tactical Fighter Technologies Program which evolved into the F-22 System Program Office.
Ms. Tracey L. Pinson became the Director for Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Office, Secretary of the Army in May 1995. Ms. Pinson advises the Secretary of the Army and the Army Staff on all small business procurement issues and is responsible for the implementation of the Federal acquisition programs designed to assist small businesses. She provides management and oversight for the Army’s Mentor-Protégé Program as well as the Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Minority Institutions (HBCU/MI) Program, and develops policies and initiatives to enhance HBCU/MI participation in Army funded programs. As one of the top females in the Army’s acquisition career field, she is responsible for the integration of small businesses, HBCUs and MIs in acquisition strategies developed at the Army Headquarters.

From 1986 - 1995, Ms. Pinson served as Assistant to the Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, Office of the Secretary of Defense. During this time frame she served as the program manager of the DoD Small Disadvantaged Business Program and the HBCU/MI Program. She developed the implementation strategy for the DoD Mentor-Protégé Program resulting in over 250 participants with a budget allocation as high as $120 million. This program has served as the model-mentoring program for all Federal Government Agencies.

Ms. Pinson was born in Washington, D.C. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Howard University. She also received a law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. She is a member in good standing of the Maryland Bar Association and the National Contract Management Association.

Mr. Joel Szabat serves Administrator Steve Preston as SBA’s Chief of Staff, helping to administer an agency which provides $76 billion in loans and financial support for America’s small business owners. Joel joined SBA from the Department of Transportation, where he led department-wide initiatives such as the President’s Management Agenda, Pandemic Flu planning, Hurricane Katrina lessons learned, and interagency research coordination.

In 2005 Joel was on detail to the US Embassy in Baghdad, as the Transportation Counselor to the Ambassador directing the US government’s $544 million transportation reconstruction program in Iraq. Joel joined DOT in 2002, as the Deputy Assistant Secretary (DAS) for Transportation Policy, then as DAS for Management and Budget.

From 1993 through 2001, Joel was the Principal Consultant for Transportation for Republicans in the California State Assembly.

From 1990 to 1993 Joel served as a management and budget aide to the Administrator of the US Environmental Protection Agency. Before joining EPA, Joel worked in a management consulting firm in the private sector.

Joel received a B.A. in Economics and Government from Georgetown University in 1981, and an MBA from Harvard Business School in 1988. Between Georgetown and Harvard, Joel was in the United States Army during the Cold War, commanding tank units patrolling the East-West German border.

Joel is from Sacramento, California. He is the founder of the International Leadership Foundation, a non-profit organization providing public service scholarships for Asian American college students. His wife, Chiling Tong, also serves President Bush, in the Commerce Department.

Randy Gardiner joined Red Dot Corporation 29 years ago in the accounting department and has since been involved in nearly every aspect of the business. In his 16 years as Red Dot’s President, Randy helped the company establish operations in Europe and Memphis, Tennessee; invest in one of the most sophisticated and busiest climate-control research and test facilities in the industry; and adopt a lean manufacturing philosophy focusing on productivity, product quality, continuous training, and shorter lead customer times.

In 2000, Randy led the company’s transfer of ownership to an Employee Stock Ownership Program, creating a 100% employee-owned company. On the strength of a more diversified customer base, Red Dot’s revenues have increased from $60 million a year in 2000 to almost $115 million in 2005.

A native of Seattle, Randy earned his Business Degree at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington.

Positions held at Red Dot:
Panelist Biographies

Mr. Vikram Verma, President and CEO, Savi Technology, a Lockheed Martin Company

Vikram Verma, President and Chief Executive Officer of Savi Technology, Inc., has combined a distinguished and highly credentialed career in both academia and business to transform Savi into a leading provider of real-time solutions for the visibility, management and security of supply chain assets. In 1999, he led a management buyout of Savi from Raytheon. Since then, Savi has raised more than $100 million in venture capital while the company’s valuation has increased more than 2,000 percent on revenue growth of more than 500 percent. Under Mr. Verma’s direction, Savi has expanded its network software platform and Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) product solutions on sales to a growing diversity of government and commercial customers worldwide.

He was a co-founder of the company in 1989 and has held a succession of progressively responsible technical, management and executive positions since then. As COO, he was instrumental in negotiating the acquisition of the privately held company to Texas Instruments in 1995. In 1997, the unit was sold to Raytheon and in 1999 he lead the management buyout of Savi from Raytheon.

Mr. Verma holds eight patents, and early in his career his DF/Tag product was recognized as the “Most Innovative Technology Developed by a Small Business” by the White House Office of Science and Technology. He has won numerous industry accolades, including being named as one of 40 “Technology Innovators” by the World Economic Forum. He has been the recipient of the “Distinguished Achievement Award” by the Florida Institute of Technology, where he earned his undergraduate degree and now sits on its Board of Trustees. He holds a seat on the Board of Governors of the National Center to the Asia Pacific Economic Coalition (APEC).

Mr. Verma graduated at the top of his class in 1987 with a B.S. degree from the Florida Institute of Technology, earned an M.S.E. degree from the University of Michigan in 1989, and an Advanced Engineer’s degree from Stanford University in 1990, all in electrical engineering. In 1986, he was awarded theEta Kappa Nu Norman R. Carson Award as the Outstanding Junior Electrical Engineering student in the United States (runner up). In 1987, he won the Tau Beta Pi Williams Fellowship as one of the top five engineering students in the United States and the Eta Kappa Nu Alton Zerby Award as the Outstanding Senior in Electrical Engineering (runner up). He completed all the coursework and passed the qualifying exam for his Ph.D. candidacy in electrical engineering from Stanford University before leaving to join Savi. In addition, he attended the executive management program for CEOs at Harvard Business School, the AEA Executive Institute at Stanford University, and the Financial Management Program at the University of California-Berkeley.

Ms. Elaine C. Duke, Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security (DHS)

Elaine C. Duke is the Chief Procurement Officer for the Department of Homeland Security. She provides leadership over the department’s $14 billion in contracts and $11 billion in financial assistance programs. Ms. Duke was the department’s Deputy Chief Procurement Officer from October 2004 to December 2005, when she assumed duties as the acting Chief Procurement Officer. In January 2006, Ms. Duke took over full responsibilities as the department’s second procurement chief. Before coming to the headquarters, she served for two years as the Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Transportation Security Administration.

Ms. Duke spent the majority of her career in acquisition with the US Navy. She completed her final tour with the Navy at the Naval Sea Systems Command in Washington, D.C. She was Director, Office of Contract Policy as well as the Deputy Director, Hull, Mechanical, and Electrical Division in the Contracts Directorate. Prior to her tour with Naval Sea Systems Command, Ms. Duke served on the staff of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations & Environment), working the base closure and realignment program.

Ms. Duke also held various positions with the Naval Facilities Engineering Command. She began her career as a contracting officer for the US Air Force. In addition to her work in the Department of Defense, Ms. Duke served as the Deputy Director of Contracting and Property Management for the Smithsonian Institution and Director of Acquisition and Grant Services for the Federal Railroad Administration.

Ms. Duke has a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management and a Master’s degree in Business Administration.

Mr. Lee Thompson, Assistant Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy & Procurement) - Iraq/Afghanistan, HQs, Department of the Army

Mr. Lee Thompson is the Assistant Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy and Procurement), Iraq/Afghanistan. Mr. Thompson directly supports the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and Procurement and the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology), on contract matters pertaining to Iraq and Afghanistan. Mr. Thompson directs a staff responsible for the analysis and evaluation of contracting matters and the initiation, development and recommendations of contracting policies, procedures, guidance and control for subordinate contracting activities in Iraq and CONUS. In this position Mr. Thompson oversees and monitors reach-back procurements and in concert with the Commander, Joint Contracting Command/Head Contract Activity-Iraq/Afghanistan provides advice and guidance on contracting matters to project managers and contracting activities in support of combat operations.
Prior to his current appointment Mr. Thompson served in various senior level management positions in the private sector where his responsibilities included the analysis of business policies, practices and procedures, delivery of logistics and procurement software solutions, and program management of acquisition and logistics projects. His military assignments included various procurement positions including command of Defense Contract Management Command District in Chicago, senior Army Staff level positions in procurement and logistics where he developed and analyzed procurement policies and practices, Department of Defense Depot Maintenance policies and methodologies, and aviation policy implementation.

Ms. Wendy Despres, Mentor-Protégé Program & Subcontracting, Office of Small & Disadvantaged Business Utilization, HQs Department of the Army

Wendy Despres became the Mentor-Protégé/Subcontracting Program Manager for the US Army Office of Small Business Programs in January 2005. Ms. Despres advises the Director, US Army Office of Small Business Programs and the Secretary of the Army on matters related to management of the Army’s Mentor-Protégé Program. She also advises acquisition personnel and industry on matters related to the Army’s Mentor-Protégé Program, as well as ensuring successful program execution. Ms. Despres also serves as the primary point of contact for Small and Disadvantaged Business Subcontracting for the Army.

Ms. Despres entered civil service in June 1987. She served in several other appointments throughout her career, most recently, as the Chief, Center for Health Care Contracting for the US Army Medical Command (MEDCOM). She has achieved Contracting Level III Certification and is a member of the Army Acquisition Corps. Her professional training includes the Sustaining Base Leadership Management Course at the Army Management Staff College. She has earned numerous awards including two Achievement Medals for Civilian Service and the Outstanding Operational Contracting Civilian for Fiscal Year 1990 for the Air Force Logistics Command.

Ms. Despres earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from Our Lady of the Lake University in 1987. She earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Texas in San Antonio in 1994.

Mr. Steve Marion, Senior Program Director, Supplier Management, FCS, The Boeing Company

Steve S. Marion is Senior Program Director, Supplier Management, Future Combat Systems. In this position, Steve leads all Subcontract Activity representing sub-contracts in excess of $9 billion dollars. As the Supplier Management representative of the Office of the Program Management, Steve leads the development and execution of our Acquisition Strategy in a fire walled environment, as Boeing is operating as a Lead Systems Integrator. Steve has personnel in six different Boeing/SAIC sites supporting this complex system of system program for the Army.

Steve joined McDonnell Douglas in 1980 and has held increasing levels of responsibility in all aspects of materiel and project management. Steve has rotated through all West Coast Divisions of Boeing in various capacities of materiel and has extensive process knowledge in military, space and commercial. Steve worked many corporate initiatives, and led a leveraging group that made a major change in our buying practices and provided significant savings to the company.

Education: Steve is a graduate of University of Redlands, with a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration. He received a Master’s Degree in Business at Pepperdine University.

Mr. Jeffrey Parsons, Director, Command Contracting, US Army Materiel Command

Mr. Jeffrey P. Parsons is the Director of Contracting, Office of Command Contracting, Headquarters, US Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He is the principal advisor to the Commanding General and members of his staff on all contracting matters. Mr. Parsons works with the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy and Procurement) and the US Army Materiel Command Principal Assistants Responsible for Contracting to efficiently and effectively accomplish the AMC Contracting mission. He is the AMC Career Program Manager for the Contracting and Acquisition Career Program, and as such, is responsible for the recruitment, training, education, and professional development of the contracting professionals who are part of the acquisition workforce. Mr. Parsons was appointed to the Senior Executive Service on December 15, 2003.

Prior to his current appointment, Mr. Parsons was the Director of Contracting, Headquarters, US Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, where he retired from active duty as an Air Force Colonel after 26 years of service. He was responsible for developing and implementing contracting policies and processes to annually acquire $34 billion in research and development, production, test, and logistics support for Air Force weapon systems. He was directly responsible for the training, organizing, and equipping of more than 3,000 contracting professionals.

Mr. Parsons’ contracting career began in 1977 as a base procurement officer supporting the 90th Strategic Missile Wing at F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyoming. He held a variety of positions as a contracting officer with a wide range of experience.
Mr. Elgart served in a variety of management positions with the Defense Logistics Agency, first at DCASPRO Teledyne CAE, then at DCASMA Detroit, and culminating as the Director of Contract Management for Defense Contract Administration Services Region Chicago. In that position, he was responsible for the administration of 18,000 defense contracts touching on all aspects of systems, logistics, and operational contracting. He was the Director of Contracting for a multi-billion dollar classified satellite program operated by the National Reconnaissance Office and served twice as a plant commander in the Defense Contract Management Agency. Mr. Elgart also held several key staff positions at Headquarters, US Air Force, the Air Force Secretariat, and with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, in which he was responsible for the development, implementation, and management of integrated, coordinated, and uniform policies and programs to govern DoD procurement world-wide.

Mr. Elgart received his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from St. Joseph's University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and holds two Master's Degrees - one in Administration with a concentration in Procurement and Contracting from George Washington University, Washington, DC, and the other in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University. He is a graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces and the Defense Systems Management College Executive Program Management Course. Mr. Elgart holds the Acquisition Professional Development Program's highest certifications in contracting and program management. He also is a Certified Professional Contracts Manager, National Contract Management Association.

**Ms. Marlene Cruze, Executive Director, Acquisition Center, US Army Aviation and Missile Command**

Ms. Cruze is currently the Executive Director of the US Army Aviation and Missile Command Acquisition Center (AMCOM AC) managing 600 contracting personnel with annual obligations exceeding $10 billion and $160 billion of active contracts. The AMCOM AC acquires aircraft and missiles along with their research, development, engineering, total logistical support, and the base operations contracting for Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Ms. Cruze was selected for the above SES position in March 1995. Previously, Ms. Cruze held positions with US Army Communications and Electronics Command (CECOM) and the US Navy, Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVAIR) and Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). As the CECOM Associate Director for Contract Operations, Ms. Cruze managed the acquisition personnel at Vint Hill Farms Station and Fort Belvoir Research and Development Center in Virginia. In this capacity, Ms. Cruze provided direction for the execution of Army, joint agency electronic warfare, satellite communications, and other intelligence gathering agencies.

When Ms. Cruze worked for the NAVSEA in Washington, DC, she managed the contracting officers for the Navy's largest acquisitions, i.e., the construction of nuclear powered ships to include US NIMITZ class aircraft carriers, TRIDENT submarines, LOS ANGELES nuclear class submarines, the Navy's battleship reactivation program, and public-private competition for the overhaul of nuclear submarines and overhaul of aircraft carriers. Ms. Cruze was the Navy's contracting officer for acquisition planning and execution of the new class submarine SEAWOLF Program. She has negotiated and awarded many multi-billion dollar contracts for Navy ships supra and Navy aircraft at NAVAIR in Washington, DC, i.e., OV-10 Broncos, T-2 training jets, KFIR aircraft manufactured by the Israeli Aircraft Corporation, the E-6A aircraft, prototype AH-1 COBRA, SH-60B LAMPS MK III, CV-HELO (SH-60F), and TH-57 training helicopters. Ms. Cruze was a Presidential Management Intern from 1982 through 1984.

Ms. Cruze has held offices in the Federal Executive Women's Association and the National Contract Management Association. Additionally, she plays Dobro (resophonic guitar), pedal steel and Hawaiian style guitars; and is a charter member of the Virginia Bluegrass Association. Ms. Cruze is a native of Thomasville, Georgia. She received her Baccalaureate Degree from Auburn University and her Master's Degree from Georgia College. She has three grown children; twin daughters, Cindy and Wendy; and son, Scott.

**Mr. Edward Elgart, Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC), US Army Communications-Electronics Command**

Edward G. Elgart is the Director of the Acquisition Center, US Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command (C-E LCMC) with locations at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, Fort Huachuca, Arizona, and Alexandria, Virginia. He also serves as the Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting for that activity, Tobyhanna Army Depot and TAO. He is responsible for the acquisition and support of Army and joint command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems, estimated in excess of $11 billion annually. Twice during his tenure, Mr. Elgart has served as the Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Procurement from August 2000 - January 2002 and May 1997 - May 1998. In that capacity, he was responsible for oversight and policy for all Army procurements, acquisition excellence and reform, and advocacy for the industrial base, as well as the proponent for the Army contracting career field. He completely revised Army procurement regulations and source selection policies during that assignment. Additionally, in partnership with the user community, he helped define doctrine for contractors on the battlefield. He also acted as the Army's Competition Advocate General during that time. Mr. Elgart was instrumental in directing resources to reconstitute Army procurement operations in the Pentagon following the September 11, 2001 attack.

From 1985-1989, Mr. Elgart served in a variety of management positions with the Defense Logistics Agency, first at DCASPRO Teledyne CAE, then at DCASMA Detroit, and culminating as the Director of Contract Management for Defense Contract Administration Services Region Chicago. In that position, he was responsible for the administration of 18,000 defense contracts valued in excess of $19 billion.
Mr. Elgart began his career in government service in 1976 as a Contract Specialist intern. As a Contracting Officer he was responsible for the negotiation and award of the $4.3 billion contract for the Mobile Subscriber Equipment battlefield communications system.

Mr. Elgart entered the Senior Executive Service in June 1989, and has twice been a recipient of the Presidential Meritorious Executive Rank Award (in 1996 and 2002). He is a Fellow of the National Contract Management Association and a previous Fort Monmouth Chapter President and Executive Director. He was appointed to the National Board of Advisors in 2005. His awards and decorations include the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service, two Meritorious Civilian Service awards, the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara, the Signal Corps Regimental Association Bronze Order of Mercury and the Army Staff Identification Badge. He was the first recipient of the Acquisition Career Management Advocate of the Year award and was presented with the Secretary of the Army Professionalism in Contracting Award (Civilian) in 2000. He is Level III Certified in Contracting and in Program Management Oversight.

Mr. Elgart holds membership in numerous professional associations and is a member of the Army Acquisition Corps and the American Mensa Society. He has published numerous articles on the field of Government contracting and has taught graduate courses in that field at Farleigh Dickinson University. In 2004, he was named a Distinguished Alumni by Brookdale Community College.

Mr. Elgart is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute and the Command and General Staff Officer Course. He is also a graduate of the Brookings Institute-University of North Carolina Leadership 2000 program and the Center for Creative Leadership. He has a Bachelor’s Degree in Biology from Kean College and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

He is married to the former Mary Ellen Reed of Deal, New Jersey. They have two children, Lindsay (Ensign, USNR), a graduate of the US Merchant Marine Academy, and Stephen, a College student.

Mr. Martin Green, Acting PARC, US Army Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command

Martin J. Green, born in Port Huron, Michigan in 1955, holds a BA degree in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University. Mr. Green’s government background includes 29 years of acquisition with the government and began in 1977 as a Contract Specialist in TACOM’s Acquisition Center. He is currently the Acting Director of the TACOM LCMC Acquisition Center. Since 1977, Mr. Green has served in various positions with the US Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM). His experience includes acquisition and leadership on the prototype and initial production phases of the HMMWV, M939 and FMTV truck programs. From 1999-2002, he served as Deputy Director of the Light Combat Commodity Business Unit (a multifunctional unit consisting of logistics, supply and contracting).

Since February 2002, Mr. Green has served as the Associate Director for the TACOM Acquisition Center. Mr. Green has demonstrated a keen ability to lead the Acquisition Center in significant procurement efforts including: support for the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), to include execution of the Iraqi Armed Forces Battalion Sets, the Iraqi Civilian Ministries non-tactical vehicles contracts and the Afghanistan light and medium tactical vehicle contracts; the continued focus on the Future Combat Systems Program; and significant support to the Global War on Terrorism to include arming of thousands of light, medium and heavy wheeled vehicles.

Mr. Green is the recipient of 1997 Commander’s Award for Public Service, the 1999 Superior Civilian Service Award, and the 2004 John W. Macy, Jr., Award.

Mr. Green is married to Nancy Green. They have two daughters, Stephanie and Danielle.

Mr. James Loehrl, PARC, US Army Field Support Command

Mr. James G. Loehrl serves as Director of the Acquisition Center and Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC) for the US Army Sustainment Command. As such, he acts as the Command’s senior civilian procurement and production authority, and advises the Commanding General on the total acquisition process, including policy development, compliance and review, contract pricing, contract management, and associated support. Mr. Loehrl has oversight of about 275 contracting personnel and more than $25 billion worth of contracts. As PARC, Mr. Loehrl is responsible for staff supervision and management of major contracting areas such as chemical demilitarization, installation support, garrison operations, and Army Prepositioned Stocks (APS), as well as the contract support staff. On November 29, 2005, Mr. Loehrl became a member of the Senior Executive Service. The SES is a corps of federal executives appointed to key leadership positions just below the level of Presidential appointees. Mr. Loehrl’s past assignments include serving as Chief of the Ammunition and Installation Division, which was responsible for procuring conventional ammunition in support of all US armed services. From February 1992 to April 2001, Mr. Loehrl served as Chief of the Chemical Demilitarization program, a $12 billion mission that was new to the Command. His
Panelist Biographies

Responsibilities included researching the mission, preparing staffing plans, and the award and administration of contracts for the construction, operation, and closure of eight chemical munitions disposal facilities. Mr. Loehrl began his federal career in 1979 as a contract specialist with the US Army Armament, Munitions and Chemical Command (AMCOM) at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois. A native of Cheyenne, Wyoming, Mr. Loehrl was raised in Silvis, Illinois. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting in 1975 from St. Ambrose University in Davenport, Iowa, and a Master of Business Administration in Procurement in 1984 from the Florida Institute of Technology. He has received the Department of the Army Exceptional Civilian Service Award and two Superior Civilian Service Awards, and was named one of the US Army Materiel Command’s top ten employees for fiscal year 1998.

Mr. Loehrl and his wife, Patricia O’Conor, reside in Moline.

Mr. James Warrington, Director of Contracting, US Army Research, Development & Engineering Command Acquisition Center

Mr. Warrington currently serves as the Executive Director of the US Army RDECOM Acquisition Center. The organization is centered at Aberdeen Proving Ground with various satellites throughout the country. The center provides contracting support to RDECOM, DTC, ARL, and ARO sites.

Mr. Warrington previously served as the Program Director for Domestic Preparedness and Homeland Defense from November 1996 until September 2001. The Domestic Preparedness program was a nationally recognized interagency program with DoD as the lead and Department of the Army acting as the Executive Agent. The program transitioned to the Department of the Justice on October 1, 2000.

Having worked for the Department of the Army for 34 years, Mr. Warrington spent the bulk of his time in the procurement arena, progressing from Procurement Analyst to Principal Assistant Responsible for Contracting (PARC). He served as the Director of Procurement from 1989 to 1995 and as the PARC from 1995 until November 1996. He served as the PARC, Contracting Activity, Baghdad, from April thru September 2004.

Mr. Warrington has a B.A. degree from Towson University, an M.B.A. from Florida Institute of Technology, and a J.D. from the University of Baltimore School of Law. He is a member of the Maryland Bar, the Court of Military Appeals, and has been admitted to the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. He is a retired JAG Corps Naval Reserve Officer. He is also a graduate of the Logistics and Acquisition Management Program (LOGAMP) and graduated from the Program Manager’s Course at Fort Belvoir in 1986. He is Level III certified in both Program Management and Contracting and Acquisition.

He lives in Baltimore, Maryland, and has a daughter, Kim.

Mr. Steven R. Clark, Director, Military Severely Injured Center, Pentagon Detachment, Department of Defense

Steve Clark was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and raised in Bloomington, Indiana. In 1990, following High School, Steve enrolled at the University of South Florida and graduated in 1994 with a Bachelor of Arts degree. Subsequently, Steve accepted employment with the University of South Florida, where he worked as the Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, and Adjunct Faculty member.

Following the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, Steve answered our Nation’s call to duty. He abandoned a safe 9 to 5 job, and enlisted in the United States Army. Steve’s leadership and dedication quickly led to his advancement to the rank of Sergeant. He was stationed in Germany as a gunner on a Multiple Launch Rocket System and was deployed with his unit to Iraq. While performing combat operations there in October 2003, he sustained severe injuries, which resulted in the amputation of his right arm. Steve underwent multiple surgeries, physical therapy, and rehabilitation at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, for nearly a year. President George Bush presented Steve a Purple Heart Medal. During his three year Army career, Steve earned the Purple Heart Medal, Combat Action Badge, Army Good Conduct Medal, four (4) Army Achievement Medals, two (2) Army Commendation Medals, the Global War On Terrorism Medal, the National Defense Medal, and the Iraqi Service Medal. He was medically discharged from the Army in August 2004.

His desire to work with and assist his fellow soldiers, who had been severely injured, was uppermost. He began work at Headquarters, US Army Materiel Command (AMC) where he led the “Always a Soldier Program”. This program’s objective is to assist severely injured soldiers in getting a civilian job in AMC. After successfully leading this program for a year, he joined the staff of the Severely Injured Soldier Support Center, Pentagon Detachment. This is a pilot program developed to assist disabled veterans in securing meaningful employment and to help them transition back into the civilian community. Steve is now the Director of this program and is currently assigned as a Program Analyst at the Pentagon’s Severely Injured Center, part of the Office of the Under Secretary for Personnel & Readiness, US Department of Defense. Steve continues to serve as a Peer Counselor, for wounded soldiers, at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.
**Mr. Jim Regan, Executive Director, Procurement Technical Assistance Program, George Mason University**

Jim Regan, Director of the Virginia Procurement Technical Assistance Program, at the George Mason University School of Public Policy Mason Enterprise Center, has over 25 years of experience in commercial and government business development and management with both small and large corporations. As PTAP Director he applies these qualifications in assisting businesses in pursuit of their government business objectives.

Mr. Regan possesses in depth experience in corporate strategic and tactical planning, and plan execution to achieve objectives. His activities in systems integration and services business development have developed broad knowledge of the government acquisition process and organizations in both the Federal and vendor community.

Prior to joining George Mason University's PTAP, Jim held senior business development management positions in Unisys, CSC and IBM in the Washington area. He also served as Senior Vice President of Corporate Development with American Coastal Industries, a diversified small business involved in manufacturing and systems integration. These positions have provided in depth experience in a variety of functional business areas including subcontractor and program management, systems engineering and business development.

Mr. Regan graduated from the US Naval Academy and the US Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey, California, where he earned his MS in Computer Systems Management. He spent a number of years on active duty as a naval aviator and retired from the Naval Reserve with the rank of Captain. In addition to carrier aviation, he flew as an international pilot with Pan American Airways on overseas routes.
Ms. Susan Nichols began her career with the Federal government in the US Army Corps of Engineers. In the Corps of Engineers she worked in the Civil Works Dredging Division and the US Army Engineering and Housing Support Center (EHSC) where she became a DA Intern under the Comptroller career program in 1990.

During her participation in this program, she attended resource management and budget courses at the US Army Management Engineering College, US Army Finance School, US Army Logistics Management College, Center for Army Leadership and OPM. She completed developmental assignments in budget and manpower functions at the EHSC; HQDA Staff Programming Division; Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (DCSPER); MACOM Staff Manpower Management Division, US Army Corps of Engineers; Fort Belvoir Garrison, Resource Management Office in the budget, manpower and finance and accounting sections; and the Humphreys Engineer Center Support Activity finance and accounting office. She graduated from the DA Intern Program in 1993 and continued her career with the US Army Center for Public Works, Resource Management Office as a Budget Analyst.

Ms. Nichols was selected for a Budget Analyst position in the Resource Management Office in 1994 and selected for a Program Analyst position in the Technical Plans and Programs Office at the Topographic Engineering Center in 1998. This is when she first became involved with the Army SBIR program as one of her duties. She continued in this position until 2001, when the Corps of Engineers laboratories underwent reorganization.

The US Army Corps of Engineers restructured all of its laboratories under one consolidated command called the Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) in 2001. Ms. Nichols was selected for a Program Analyst position at ERDC headquarters, which resulted in expanded oversight of the SBIR program to the seven ERDC laboratories. She continued in this position until she was selected for the Army SBIR Program Manager position in May 2004.

Ms. Nichols has a Bachelor of Science degree in Management/Computer Information Systems from Park University.

Ms. Joan Ales serves as a Customer Account Manager at the Armament Research Development Engineering Center part of the US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command. She works with Product Managers and Life Cycle Management Commands concentrating on acquisition of munitions and armament systems for the Army. This includes assuring the processes for specifying the quality requirements included in Army contracts, and the performance of audits of contractor’s and Government facilities producing new material or repairing existing systems are implemented and maintained. These responsibilities cover equipment and systems as diverse as training devices, tanks, tools, diving equipment, artillery and small arms, both hardware and related software and munitions.

Ms. Ales received a Bachelor’s Degree in education from William Penn College, Oskaloosa, IA and a Master’s in Business Administration from St. Ambrose University, Davenport, IA. She began her federal career in 1984 in the Army Quality Assurance and Reliability Intern program and has remained in the quality assurance field during her years of Government employment.

She has received ASQ certification for Quality Technician and Quality Auditor. She is a member of the Army Acquisition Corp.

Steven M. Terronez serves as Chief of the Large Weapons Product Quality Management Branch, part of REDCOM-ARDEC. In his present position as Branch Chief, he is responsible for the successful performance of his branch as related to the application of quality assurance requirements throughout the acquisition life cycle of various weapons systems/platforms such as the ABRAMS Tank, Bradley Fighting Vehicle, M119 Howitzer, etc. In addition to his Branch Chief duties, Mr. Terronez, achieved his Six Sigma Green Belt certification and is close to completing his Lean Six Sigma Black Belt project. Mr. Terronez was very active in the early 1990s through 2003 conducting ISO Quality System Management audits as a RAB certified lead assessor. In December of 1997, Mr. Terronez took and successfully passed the QS9000 auditor examination, and did have the opportunity to participate on QS9000 audits. Mr. Steven M. Terronez is a 1980 graduate of St. Ambrose University, Davenport, IA where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology. He began his federal career in 1985 in the Army Quality Assurance and Reliability Intern program and has remained in the quality assurance field during his years of Government employment. He is a member of the Army Acquisition Corp, and a member of American Society For Quality.

Mr. Ronald Davis is the Deputy Chief of Staff for Business Transformation (G-7), Headquarters, Army Materiel Command. His responsibilities include industrial base policy, public-private partnerships, standardization, diminishing manufacturing sources, product data policy and programs for continuous improvement including Lean Six Sigma. Ongoing actions include implementation of the Army’s Industrial Base Strategic Plan and Partnership Business Development Plan. Mr. Davis entered the Senior Executive Service in June of 2004 as the Deputy G-3 for Industrial Operations, Headquarters, Army Materiel Command.
Mr. Davis began his DoD career at Norfolk Naval Shipyard as a Naval Architect in the Engineer Development Program. He left in 1984 to work for the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Jacksonville, Florida as the Supervisory Naval Architect and later as Chief Engineer. While in Jacksonville, Mr. Davis led the engineering effort for battle damage repair on USS STARK (FFG 31) and USS SAMUEL B ROBERTS (FFG 58). In 1998 Mr. Davis went to the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, New Orleans, Louisiana as the Chief Engineer. There he participated in lead ship design for amphibious transport dock ships and construction of strategic sealift ships. In 2000, Mr. Davis became the first civilian deputy to the commanding officer at the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, Mississippi. There he led over $1 billion per year in major acquisition including guided missile destroyers, amphibious assault ships and oceanographic research vessels, as well as reconstruction of the USS COLE (DDG 67) following a terrorist attack in Yemen. In 2004, Mr. Davis served as Director, Supervisor of Shipbuilding Management Group, Naval Sea Systems Command headquarters.

Mr. Davis completed his undergraduate engineering studies at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is also a graduate of National Defense University’s Industrial College of the Armed Forces. While at ICAF Mr. Davis earned a Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy, completed the Senior Acquisition Course and earned recognition as a Distinguished Academic Graduate.

Mr. Spitzbarth began his career with the Department of the Army in 1979 as a Contract Specialist at the Tank Automotive Readiness Command in Warren, Michigan where, from 1986 to 1994, he served as Contracting Officer or SSEB Deputy Chairman on numerous Source Selections.

In 1994, he was re-assigned to the newly established System Acquisition Assistance Office (SAAO), within the TACOM Acquisition Center. The SAAO was formed primarily as a service organization to assist Program Managers, PCOs, Source Selection Evaluation Boards and Source Selection Authorities in the planning and execution of Best Value Source Selections. While in the SAAO, Mr. Spitzbarth also served as an SSEB Deputy Chairman on a number of acquisitions, including the joint United States/United Kingdom Future Scout and Cavalry System.

Mr. Spitzbarth was the TACOM representative on the Army Materiel Command’s Past Performance IPT at its inception in 1989, and also represented the Department of the Army on the Department of Defense’s 1997 IPT to develop an execution strategy for DoD implementation of FAR Part 42 requirements to collect and maintain “Contractor Performance Information”.

During the period 1999-2000, Mr. Spitzbarth participated nearly full time in the Army’s Transformation objective to equip Brigade Combat Team’s with Stryker Interim Armored Vehicles. In this role, he was directly involved in the development of the acquisition strategy, evaluation criteria, and preparation of the Source Selection decision documentation during selection phase of the acquisition. He also served as the SSEB Management Area Team Chief.

Since 2000, and beyond his TACOM related Source Selection activities, Mr. Spitzbarth has also participated extensively in a series of Army-wide Source Selections including the Aberdeen Proving Grounds A-76, Restore Iraq Oil (RIO), the USAREUR Support Contract, and full time assignment to the Department of Army’s Orchestration & Coordination Committee (OCC) responsible for managing the Source Selection award of 10 contracts for the Reconstruction of Iraq’s basic public services infrastructure. The Source Selection process for the 10 Iraq Reconstruction awards, from proposal receipt to award, was completed in 50 days without protest.

Mr. Spitzbarth is currently assigned to Acquisition Center at the TACOM LCMC, where he continues to serve in the System Acquisition and Assistance Office. Mr. Spitzbarth is a 1979 graduate of the University of Michigan with a Bachelors Degree in History.

Audry Musgrove is Small Business Liaison Officer, Supplier Diversity, Future Combat Systems. In this position, Audry develops and implements unique strategies to augment the utilization of small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, women-owned small business, historically black colleges and university/minority institutions, and other business concerns identified by the FCS Program. In addition to coordinating the performance reports from 23 subcontractors, Audry also is the FCS prime interface with the Army Small business office on all matters regarding Supplier Diversity.

Audry joined the Douglas Aircraft Company in 1985 as a manufacturing capacity planner in Fabrication. In this position she developed capacity plans for fabrication and assembly. Audry also developed integrated schedules to support the F-15 program. In 1992, Audry was promoted to senior manager of MD11 Aft Fuselage. In this capacity, she led 13 managers and more than 400 collective bargaining union employees in delivering fully stuffed fuselage barrels to final assembly. Audry also initiated, coordinated and managed producibility improvements, policy and procedures, and manufacturing cost improvements. After serving various assembly managerial positions with increasing responsibility, Audry was named senior manager of electrical sub-assemblies, one of the largest departments.

She was also very active on division/corporate level improvement teams, including lean manufacturing, diversity council, HBCU/ME corporate committee, and division-level strategy team. Audry has received numerous awards including a 2003 National Women of Color in Technology Award.
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GD-OTS is commitment to providing the Armed Forces of the US and its allies with the highest quality, “best value” solutions for 21st century combat. As one of the oldest and largest manufacturer of conventional ammunition in the United States and a continuous Department of Defense contractor, we continue a century-long heritage of setting the quality and innovation standards in medium and large caliber ammunition design, development and manufacturing. GD-OTS has participated in the development and/or production of every US kinetic energy projectile since 1960. We are rewriting medium caliber ammunition performance standards with new, more effective kinetic energy, multi-purpose and airburst munitions. We are a world leader in munitions dispensing technology, high-performance propulsion and propellant systems, shaped-charge and explosive formed penetrator development and air-to-air warhead design.

As a leading systems contractor to the US government, we offers a diverse array of capabilities including engineering, manufacturing and weapon system program management; technical support capabilities; high-volume load, assemble and pack; precision metal parts fabrication; forging and composite fabrication; and quality and testing services. Our vast systems contracting experience enables us to extend our capabilities to the global market.

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