

NEWS RELEASE

MAINE DISTRICT OFFICE

Release Date: 7/13/07 Contact: Bonnie Erickson

Release Number: ME-07-39 622-8275

Internet Address: www.sba.gov/me bonnie.erickson@sba.gov

Business.gov Website Expands With New Features to Help Entrepreneurs

Augusta, ME – Maurice Dubé, District Director of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in Maine, stresses the importance of www.business.gov. "Maine's entrepreneurs can obtain information on license and permit requirements from their computer," Dube said. The website www.business.gov has expanded its offerings of resources and tools to help small businesses comply with federal government regulations.

Business.gov's new "Permit Me" feature provides a single source for obtaining federal, state, and local permits and professional licenses for businesses. While every business in the United States is required to obtain a permit, professional license, or identification number to operate, finding the right license can be a major challenge for potential business owners. Although some states offer assistance to help individuals understand their local permit and license requirements, not all provide federal information.

Business.gov has also added "Feature Topics" that focus on common business concerns and will be continually updated. Featured Topics provide context to the compliance information provided on the site and help business owners understand in plain language the regulatory requirements their businesses face.

Business.gov is managed by the SBA in partnership with 21 other federal agencies. Originally launched in 2004, the Web site provided information on starting, growing, and managing a small business. The re-launched compliance site is designed to better meet the needs of the business community.