

Business Opportunities at DHS



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From the Chairman

Dear Friends,

I want to thank you for the positive responses I have received regarding the content of the first edition of this newsletter. In this edition of the newsletter, you will find information on existing opportunities with the Department, the Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR), and the Homeland Security Advanced Research Projects Agency (HSARPA).

I began this newsletter to alleviate the gap that exists between the need for information about opportunities available at the Department and the ability to locate and disseminate that information in a timely and user-friendly manner.

Similarly, my experience has taught me that the gap between need and ability also affects businesses in their quest to interact with the Department. A small business owner may have a concept for a product that will address an important homeland security need, but lack the resources necessary to bring the product on-line. A large company may not have developed the original concept, but may possess the resources necessary to transform a prototype into an available product. The gap between concept and production can be bridged by providing each party with the type of information they need to create a product that fills a critical need.

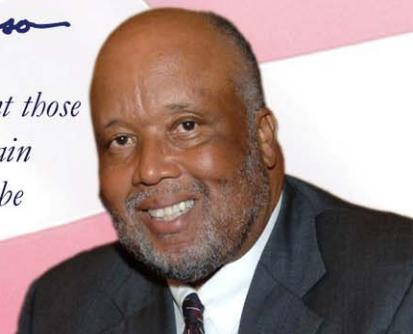
This newsletter is intended to bridge the gaps that keep information unavailable, sidelines worthwhile businesses, discourages full participation, and permits vulnerabilities to continue.

Keep the Faith,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bennie G. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

"Securing our homeland is one of the nation's most critical needs. Artificial barriers that prevent those with good ideas from contributing to this important endeavor can no longer be permitted to remain unchecked. The kind of bureaucratic inertia that leads to limited opportunities for many must be replaced by a new spirit of service and inclusion. I am committed to ensuring expanded participation in this critical endeavor."

—Chairman Bennie G. Thompson



UPCOMING EVENTS WITH DHS

In Washington:

Regular Vendor Outreach Session with Small Business Specialists

Tuesday, March 25, 2008

9 AM-12 PM

Holiday Inn Capitol—Columbia Ballroom

http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness/editorial_0524.shtm

Thursday, March 27, 2008

National Small Business Federal Contracting Week

Sponsor: US Women's Chamber of Com.

<http://www.uswcc.org/absolutenm/templates/uswcc-event-template.aspx?articleid=148&zoneid=1>

Thursday, April 24, 2008

DC Area 18th Annual OSDBU Procurement Conference

Show Place Arena—Upper Marlboro, MD

Sponsor: Federal Business Council

<http://www.fbinc.com/osdbu>

Around the Country:

March 27, 2008,

Business Matchmaker 2008

Dayton, Ohio

Sponsor: Small Business Administration

<https://ohiobizmatch.com/index.php>

HSARPA Broad Agency Announcement 08-04 Bacterial Population Genetics in a Forensics Context

Historically Black Institutions, Minority Institutions, Small Business Concerns, Small Disadvantaged Business Concerns, Women-Owned Small Business concerns, Veteran-Owned Small Business Concerns, and HUBZone Small Business concerns are encouraged both to submit proposals and to join other entities as team members in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set-aside pursuant to FAR Part 19.502-2.

The goal of this research program is to develop algorithms and/or analytical tools that will assist investigators of bioterrorism events by providing precision and statistical power to inferences concerning the degree of relatedness among organisms or samples used in a bioterrorist event. The objectives include:

- Improving understanding of the population genetics of these pathogens to include research on genome stability, host preferences and interactions, genetic mobility of virulence factors, polymorphic sites, mutational hot spots, geographical distribution, microbial ecology, pathogen lifecycles, natural reservoirs, effects of host – pathogen interaction, etc.
- Improving methods for determining rates of mutation and recombination of the pathogen genomes and the identification of adaptive mutations that can have forensic utility
- Establishing match criteria for discriminating “difference” or “sameness” in sample comparisons. Define the parameters for inclusion or exclusion in the context of a known sample and questioned sample. This must be backed by statistical parameters for acceptance or rejection of the null hypothesis
- Developing efficient, economical, and statistically rigorous sampling strategies to acquire spatially referenced genetic information on reservoirs of these pathogens.
- Developing bioinformatics-based analytical tools for supporting hypotheses testing regarding pathogen origin that go beyond current phylogeny-based inferential methods and can meet forensic (legal) admissibility requirements of relevance and reliability.

White papers are **required** for consideration. For the full announcement, requirements for submission, or if you have questions regarding this solicitation please send an email to BAA08-04@dhs.gov. You should also contact:

Peter Pesenti, Ph.D
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Tim Davis
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

HELPFUL LINKS

DHS “How to Do Business with the Department”

http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/editorial_0421.shtm

DHS Organizational Chart

http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/editorial_0644.shtm

OSDBU Contacts

http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness/gc_1178570919850.shtm

Statistics on DHS Small Business Performance

<http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/goals/index.html>

DID YOU KNOW...

You can locate advance acquisition planning information at:

<http://www.fido.gov/dhs/aap/publicviewsb.asp>

You can access current contracting opportunities:

<http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/SearchServlet>

You can serve as a subcontractor with a prime at DHS:

http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/opnbiz/OSDBU-DHS_Prime_Contractors_List.pdf

If you believe your company has been treated unfairly by the Department of Homeland Security, please tell us about it: DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Solicitation #	DHS Office/ Agency	Project	Point of Contact	Response Date
HSCG40-08-Q-40738	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs professional, administrative, and management support services	David Monk, Contract Specialist: David.Monk@dhs.gov	March 24, 2008
HSBP10-08-R-1628	Customs and Border Protection	CBP needs Human Resource Support Services	Monica Watts Contract Specialist: Monica.Watts@dhs.gov	April 16, 2008
HSFEEM-08-Q-0024	FEMA	FEMA needs help desk support for state and local participants of its National Fire Incident Reporting System	Charles Tama, Contract Specialist: Charles.Tama@dhs.gov	April 7, 2008
HSCEE1-08-R-00006	ICE- Federal Protective Services	FPS is seeking a contractor to provide security guards and patrol services.	Joshua Clemens, Contract Specialist: Joshua.Clemens@dhs.gov	April 4, 2008
HSFMEW-08-R-0008	FEMA	RFP for the purchase of software and maintenance for FEMA's Cisco Intelligent Contact Manager System	Deborah Foster, Contract Specialist: Deborah.Foster@dhs.gov	March 27, 2008
HSCG-27-08-3PR305	United States Coast Guard	USCG is required to purchase hydraulic hoses.	John Lukondi, Contract Specialist: John.Lukondi@dhs.gov	March 31, 2008
08ART0115C	DHS Federal Law Enforcement Agency	DHS FLEA needs to purchase tires.	Montie Hickey, Contract Specialist Montie.Hickey@dhs.gov	March 19, 2008
21-08-398QFS032	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs information technology equipment	Shawn Millang, Contract Specialist: Shawn.Millang@dhs.gov	March 31, 2008
HSFEMS-08-R-0014	FEMA	FEMA Recovery Office needs gravel for its Biloxi, MS operation	Patricia Trusler, Contract Specialist Patricia.Trusler@dhs.gov	March 19, 2008
HSCG38-08-R-200003	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs to purchase aircraft components and accessories	Ewa Brown, Contract Specialist Ewa.Brown@dhs.gov	April 24, 2008
HSCG40-08-Q-50107	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs to purchase a centrifugal pump	Cecelia Whitehead, Contract Specialist Cecelia.Whitehead@dhs.gov	March 28, 2008
HSCG28-08-Q-1001001A	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs maintenance, repair, and rebuilding of equipment	Linda Clark, Contract Specialist Linda.Clark@dhs.gov	March 20, 2008
HSCG38-08-Q-S300032	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs rechargeable cells	Sherri Roche, Contract Specialist Sherri.Roche@uscg.mil	March 28, 2008

OTHER DHS OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities with Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)
All federal agencies with an annual extramural Research and Development budget exceeding \$100 Million are required to participate in the Small Business Innovation Research Program (SBIR). DHS is one of those federal agencies. SBIR targets entrepreneurs and small businesses because that is where the most innovation thrives. However, the risk and expense of conducting serious research and development are usually beyond the means of many small businesses. By reserving a specific percentage of federal research and development funds for small businesses, SBIR enables small businesses to compete on the same level as larger businesses in the critical startup and development stages.

DHS's SBIR program will be releasing a solicitation this spring. After the solicitation is released, business owners are encouraged to contact the respective program managers in each field by either telephone or email. These program managers are available to answer questions related to the solicitation. Additionally, business owners have the opportunity to meet SBIR program managers and other members of the Science and Technology Directorate at various conferences throughout the country.

For more information on DHS's SBIR Program, contact Vinny Schaper via email at Vincent.Schaper@dhs.gov.

We're Here to Serve You!

If you believe your company has been treated unfairly by the Department of Homeland Security, please tell us about it: DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov

Committee on Homeland Security Announcement

On Wednesday, April 2, 2008, the Committee on Homeland Security is hosting a technology fair entitled, "Detecting and Responding to Bioterrorism," to educate Members and staff on key products that the private sector uses for detection of and response to acts of bioterrorism.

The bioterrorism technology fair will highlight detecting bioterrorism in water, air, and the food supply. Also the fair will provide the companies an opportunity to showcase how their firm's technology can improve response to bioterrorism, the alert systems, and safety equipment.

The fair will be held from 9 AM to 3 PM. If your organization specializes in bioterrorism technologies, please call the Committee office: (202) 226-2616.

SBIR wants to meet you!
Kentucky Innovation and Enterprise
Conference
Lexington, KY
April 17, 2008
<http://ksef.kstc.com/>

IEEE International Conference
Technologies for Homeland Security
Waltham, MA
May 12-13, 2008
www.ieee.org

National SBIR Conference
Orlando, FL
May 27-30, 2008
<http://www.sbirflorida.org/contact.asp>

Department of Homeland Security High Priority Representative Technology Areas

- Standoff detection on persons
- Tools to detect and mitigate animal disease breakouts
- Handheld rapid biological and chemical detection systems
- Analytical techniques for security across the information technology system engineering life cycle
- Composable and scalable secure systems
- Enhanced screening and examination by non intrusive inspection
- Mobile biometrics screening capabilities
- High speed, high fidelity ten print capture capability
- Detection paradigms and systems for enhanced, emerging, and novel biological threats
- Ability to detect handmade or novel explosives
- Capability in real time for positive verification of individual's identity using multiple biometrics

Other High Priority Representative Technology Needs are in the "High Priority Technology Areas" Document. This document may be obtained by visiting www.hsarpabaa.com and by following the Representative High Priority Areas link.