

The SBA event shown below will be held in Philadelphia on 9/22/06. If interested, I received a letter today that has this specific list of directions for registration:

- Go to www.businessmatchmaking.com
- Find "links" on the bottom, right hand side of the home page.
- Click on "Procurement Services Portal for Buyers"
- Click on "Business Matchmaking Buyers Registration"
- Begin your registration

Please consider participating in a Regional Business Matchmaking event that will be held at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia on September 22, 2006. The event is sponsored by a joint partnership between the U.S. Small Business Administration, Hewlett Packard and SCORE. It is designed to enable the procurement that your organization performs to be more competitive and to assist you in attaining the small business procurement goals that most organizations have. The event also provides many small businesses access to your procurement staff that would otherwise be nearly impossible to get.

Experienced small businesses will be matched through our extensive Matchmaking software system with procurement officials from your organization who will meet with the sellers. The day will be filled with "matched" appointments between those that supply specific items or commodities and those that buy the same. No one's time is wasted and the appropriate business contacts are made. It is truly a "win-win" situation for everyone!

There are several key things to consider about participation in this exciting event:

- There is no cost for procurement organizations to participate. Within reasonable limits, you can send as many buyers as you deem appropriate for your organization.
- The program consists of 15-minute appointments scheduled with pre-qualified, trained and certified small businesses that are matched to your stated buying needs. We are, however, limiting the event to 500 sellers that might come from coast to coast.
- There are only 4 events like this in 2006 in the United States, and this is the only in the north east section of the country. Success of similar Regional Matchmaking events proves its effectiveness.
- Buying organizations will include public sector representation from federal, state, and local agencies as well as major private sector corporations.

Registration is simple - in one of the following methods:

- Contact Vanessa Hammack, Business Matchmaking Procurement Services Manager, at 415-595-8262 or vanessa@BusinessMatchmaking.com.
- Register online by visiting www.businessmatchmaking.com.

If you have any questions, please contact the SBA Philadelphia District Office's Joe McDevitt (215-580-2706, joseph.mcdevitt@sba.gov).