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SBA Wisconsin's 2014 Award Winners

SBA Awards Breakfast to Be Held in Milwaukee on June 6.

Each year, the U.S. Small Business Administration recognizes the vital contributions of small businesses to America's economy by honoring outstanding small business owners and the organizations that support them.

This year, five small businesses and seven individuals and organizations that support entrepreneurial success will receive awards from SBA’s Wisconsin District office.

The 29th Annual SBA Awards Breakfast will take place Friday, June 6th at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee. The keynote speaker will be Gary Zimmerman, co-owner of Creative Business Interiors in Madison. To register for the event or to sponsor a table, contact Mary Trimmier at (414) 297-1093 or mary.trimmier@sba.gov.

SBA Wisconsin congratulates all of the winners and thanks them for their commitment to Wisconsin’s small businesses. A list of all the winners is on the Small Business Administration’s Website: http://www.sba.gov/wi.

Save Energy and Money Through the Focus on Energy Program

Focus on Energy has a simple program available to Wisconsin small businesses to help them on their way to saving energy and money. The Small Business Program has recently had an increase in incentive programs and money available to assist small businesses.

The Small Business Program provides small business owners a free lighting assessment that identifies opportunities for reducing their building's energy use. Once the assessment is complete, business owners receive an assessment report showing them the cost of the project and the estimated savings.

Thousands of small businesses throughout Wisconsin have participated in the Small Business Program and have begun saving energy.

For more information visit the Focus on Energy Website, email smallbiz@focusonenergy.com or call 877-229-6678.
Is Your Business Looking for Incentives to Use Renewable Energy?

There is a database of state incentives for renewable energy. The database is a comprehensive source of information on state, local, utility and federal incentives to promote renewable energy and energy efficiency. The DSIRE website lists financial incentives for grants, rebates, loans and tax incentives. The website also lists rules, regulations, policies and programs.

DSIRE Website

Looking for Small Entity Representatives (SERs) for a Small Business Advocacy Review (SBAR) Panel

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is inviting small businesses, governments, and not-for-profit organizations to participate as Small Entity Representatives (SERs) for a Small Business Advocacy Review (SBAR) Panel. This panel will focus on the agency’s proposed extension of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles’ greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards beyond model year 2018.

SBRFA (the Small Business Regulatory Flexibility Act) requires EPA to convene a SBAR Panel when a rule is expected to have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The proposed rule may affect entities in the following industry sectors:

Manufacturers of:

- Heavy-duty engines,
- Complete vehicles under 14,000 pounds GVWR,
- Vehicle chassis,
- Semi-tractors,
- Semi-tractor trailers;

and the last sector of alternative fuel engine converters.

Here is the link to the announcement: http://www.epa.gov/rfa/heavy-duty-phase2.html