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INROADS

Paving the Way for Montana's Disadvantaged Business Enterprises



Montana Department of Transportation
DBE Program
Civil Rights Bureau
P.O. Box 201001
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How to get your small business online (without a website)

From the May 2011 edition of the Costco Connection

The year 2011 is well underway, and if your small business isn't online for a portion of your marketing you stand a chance of being left behind, according to small-business consultants. Ninety-four million American adults are online everyday, and 64 percent of them use the Internet as their primary way to

search for local businesses – so if you aren't online, potential customers will find someone who is.

If you haven't tackled the work of the Internet, don't worry. Here are three simple tasks recommended to get your small business online today even if you don't have a website yet.

- 1) Create a free business listing on search engines such as Google, Yahoo and Bing.
- 2) Create a free business listing on the different Internet Yellow Pages.
- 3) Create a free business listing on consumer/business connection sites such as Yelp.com, MerchantCircle.com and Local.com

These three steps are easy to follow, but if your time doesn't permit or you're not comfortable with doing it yourself, you can hire someone or even ask a computer-savvy teenager to do them for you.

It doesn't matter what type of small business you own. What matters as a small business is having an online presence, even if it's minimal, in order to remain competitive.

Welcome, Recently Certified DBEs!

Ethnotech LLC
Donald Sam
Surveying, Cultural
Resources and
Education

Terra West Technology
Inc
Regina Cromer
Autocad, Data
Processing, Computer
Aided Design, GIS/GPS
Mapping

R E Page Construction
LLC
Ralph Page
Fencing

Do you know someone who could be a DBE?

If they are a small business owned by a minority or a woman and have less than \$1,320,000 in personal net worth and less than \$22.41 million in annual sales averaged over the last 3 years, they may qualify! Tell them to contact Wendy Stewart, DBE Program Manager at 406-444-6337 or westewart@mt.gov for an application packet.

Bid and Contracting Opportunity

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
MDT holds two bid lettings each month.

Proposed for letting June 2011

UPN/UNIT	PROJECT ID	FINANCIAL DISTRICT	PROJECT DESIGNATION	TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION	LENGTH MILES
7303 000	NH 5-3(109)122	1	JCT MT 40 – SOUTH	RESURFACING-ASPHALT (THIN LIFT<=60.00MM)(INCLUDING SAF. IMP.)(PAVE PRES)	4.6
7358 000	NH 57-3(46)81	5	LEWISTOWN SIDEWALKS	BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES	
7357 000	STPP 81-1(25)13	5	DENTON SIDEWALKS	BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN FACILITIES	
7306 000	STPS 257-1(7)0	1	SUPERIOR – SE	RESURFACING –SEAL & COVER	5.8
7305 000	STPS 482-1(6)0	1	AIRPORT RD – LIBBY	RESURFACING –S EAL & COVER	3.4
7682 000	STPS 358-2(2)24	3	CUT BANK S SLIDE S-358	RECONSTRUCITON-WITHOUT ADDED CAPACITY	
6589 000	STPU 5204(4)	3	SMELTER AVENUE-BLACK EAGLE	RECONSTRUCTION-WITHOUT ADDED CAPACITY	0.9
7237 000	UPP 5811(2)	3	SOUTH MT AVE – HLNA	RESURFACING-ASPHAL(THIN LIFT<=60.00MM)(INCLUDING SAF. IMP.)(PAVE PRES)	0.4
7070 000	SFCN 1-2(162)135	1	US 2 & HILLTOP-COLUMBIA FALLS	TRAFFIC SIGNALS & LIGHTING	

Rural Montana Saves

In Rural Montana Saves each participant will join a local credit union and open a special savings account. Every dollar a participant saves is matched with three dollars. A participant can save up to \$500 and earn \$1,500 in matched funds which can be used toward reaching college, job training or self-employment goals. That means a participant will be able to save up to \$2,000 to pay for tuition, books, supplies, or other education or training related costs.

Some participants may also qualify for Supportive Service funds which may be used to assist with costs for items that are needed for a participant to be successful in school and the workforce.

Who qualifies for RMS?

- Individuals with low to moderate incomes. To see if your income is within the range please check the chart on the website.
- Residents of a rural county. To see if you live in a rural county please check the map on the website.
- Individuals who are not currently receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) cash assistance.
- Adults over the age of 18 who have a minor child living with them at home or anyone age 16-18 or anyone up to age 19 if still in high school.

For more information, read through the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) or call REO at 1-800-546-1140. If you would like to apply for Rural Montana Saves, please [complete and send an application](#) to REO. The website is: <http://reomontana.org/employment-training/rural-montana-saves/>

DBE participation for MDT Awarded Contracts for January and February:

Prime <i>DBE</i>	Location	Project	DBE Participation
<i>H L Construction Inc</i>	SF069-Guardrail-W of Jct S-434	HSIP-NH 24-3(32)98	<i>100%</i>
Helena Sand & Gravel Inc <i>Highway Specialties</i>	Cascade-N & S	STPP 68-1(2)0	7.37%
Hollow Contracting Inc <i>Promark</i>	Deer Lodge-Racetrack	IM 90-3(105)189	4.18%
Knife River – Billings	Ballantine-E & W	IM 94-1(72)13	0.00%
Knife River – Billings <i>Arrow Striping</i>	Grand-Division to 8 th -Blgs	UPP 1004(10)	6.33%
Knife River – Kalispell <i>Promark</i>	SF069-Contrad Dr/Shady Ln-Kal SF069-Contrad Dr-E of Kalispell	HSIP 317-1(13)4 HSIP 317-1(11)3	11.33%
Pumco Inc <i>Promark</i>	Slide E of Noxon	STPP 6-1(120)16	3.40%
Riverside Sand & Gravel Inc <i>Arrow Striping</i>	Hathaway E & W (WB)	IM 94-3(61)116	3.63%
Schellinger Const Co Inc <i>Highway Specialties</i>	Kiowa Jct-Hudson Bay Divide	STPP-HSIP 58-1(30)12	14.67%
<i>Scott Construction Inc</i>	SF069-Flasher-US 87-W of Havre	HSIP 1-6(68)379	<i>100%</i>
<i>Scott Construction Inc</i>	SF079 Lting-Frtown-Fish-W Lolo	HSIP 002(895)	<i>100%</i>
Stillwater Electric Inc	SF079 Flasher-S of Whitefish	HSIP 38-1(10)1	0.00%
Taimietti Construction Co <i>Gaston Engineering</i>	Musselshell R-10 KM W Two Dot	BR 9054(10)	.06%
United Materials of Great Falls Inc <i>Highway Specialties</i>	ADA: 1 st Ave N 25 th -38 th ADA: 2 nd Ave N 37 th -15 th	CM 5210(24) CM 5218(4)	2.56%
Average Participation			8.71 %

DOT EARNS GOLD STAR AWARD DURING “SBA NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK”

The US Department of Transportation (DOT) is one of two federal agencies being recognized during the Small Business Week 2011 for its exemplary performance and commitment to providing contracting and subcontracting opportunities for small, women-owned and disadvantaged businesses.

The award is being given by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The SBA is presenting the Gold Star Award to DOT for its impressive achievements in Fiscal Year 2009, including surpassing contracting goals to small businesses, small and disadvantaged firms, HUBZone firms, and women-owned small businesses.

“Diversity and equality can only be achieved by an agency wide commitment that begins with Secretary LaHood and the DOT leadership,” said Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization Director Brandon Neal, who accepted the award and was also honored for his personal efforts. “This award is a tribute to the DOT procurement community working with program offices to expand the agency’s ability to achieve and exceed small business goals.”

The Gold Star Awards were established to recognize the Federal personnel who have the primary responsibility for the aggressive goals and strategic initiatives that ensure small business a role in the Federal marketplace. At DOT, OSDBU oversees the agency’s small business program, supported by headquarters, the modal administrations, and its network of Small Business Transportation Resource Centers.

For more information, please visit www.osdbu.dot.gov.

MDT Civil Rights Bureau Directory

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Take a class anywhere, any time with the Small Business Training Network (SBTN). The SBTN is a virtual campus offering online courses, publications and other forms of technical assistance. Courses are self-paced and take about 30 minutes to complete.

Some classes they have available include:
Strategies for Growth
Construction Safety & OSHA Compliance
IRS Resources for Small Business Owners
Recordkeeping

Access these and more at:

<http://www.sba.gov/category/navigation-structure/counseling-training>

Meetings, Workshops, and Training Opportunities

June

- 6/2 SBA Awards Ceremony – Honoring Montana’s Top Small Businesses & Advocates**
 Helena, Red Lion Colonial, 12:30 pm
 SBA will honor outstanding small business owners and advocate champions from across Montana in various categories. .
 Cost: \$30
 Contact: 441-1081
- 6/9 Managing Across Generations**
 Billings, Best Western Clocktower Inn, 9 am
 Learn how to: Understand what make different generations tick, dispel myths and misconceptions, Practice a tool to build positive relationships, and Earn the trust of each generation through respect
 Cost: \$249
 Contact: Pat Griffin 406-599-1386
- 6/14 Financing A High-Impact Venture (in Montana) Workshop**
 Bozeman, 8 am
 Topics include capital sources for entrepreneurs, debt versus equity, exits, business plans, fundable companies and advisors

Mark your calendars