Welcome to the First Issue of Our Newsletter

Welcome to the premiere issue of the URS | CH2M Oak Ridge LLC (UCOR) Small Business Program newsletter, a bulletin designed to highlight activities and accomplishments of the UCOR Small Business Program. The goal is to publish a bimonthly newsletter, keeping our Subcontracts, Procurement, and Property Group up-to-date with legislative developments, provide training, and increase visibility of the Small Business Program. This newsletter is a new communication effort to document our progress and our successes.

If you have any concerns you would like addressed or want more information, please contact Karen Reeve at (865) 576-5643. Questions may be addressed in upcoming issues. In future newsletters, different buyers and subcontract specialists will be featured in the “Meet and Greet” portion of the newsletter. Stay tuned!

Meet Freda Hopper

Freda H. Hopper is the Small Business Program Manager for Department of Energy (DOE) Oak Ridge Office (ORO). She manages the Socioeconomic Procurement Programs and serves as the ORO Small and Disadvantaged Business Program Manager, reporting directly to the Director, Procurement and Contracts Division. Freda’s responsibilities include developing and recommending policy, advising ORO managers and contractors of small business issues, and representing DOE at local and regional events. She joined DOE in March of 2004.

From 1998 until 2004, Freda worked for Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC as the Small Business Advocate Manager. Prior to working for Bechtel Jacobs Company, she was a contract administrator for CH2M HILL and CDM Federal Programs Inc. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from South Carolina State University and has received training in several business and contract-related fields.

Freda is a member of several local professional organizations. In 1989, the American Business Women’s Association awarded her the Woman of the Year award. She was also awarded the Federal Small Business Program Manager of the Year in 2008.

Ms. Hopper has two children. Her son, Alex, attends Pellissippi State Community College, and her daughter, Mehhgan, attends Middle Tennessee State University.

She enjoys and is very involved in doing work for her church. Her passion and relaxation comes from reading. A great weekend for Freda is relaxing by the beach with several good books to read.
UCOR Selects First Protégé Subcontractor

The Mentor-Protégé Program is a DOE initiative established to provide an opportunity for eligible small businesses to receive developmental assistance in business and/or technical areas from experienced large and small businesses performing as DOE contractors. This program will assist the small businesses in improving and expanding their capabilities to perform contracts and subcontracts for DOE and its prime contractors.

Transportation, Operations and Professional Services, Inc. (TOPS) is a woman-owned small business headquartered in East Tennessee. TOPS is the first DOE-approved protégé of UCOR.

TOPS was formed in 1999 to provide transportation and project management services for public agencies and private sector companies. During the 12-year history of the company, TOPS has maintained an exceptional safety record while still delivering quality service at a competitive price.

TOPS specializes in providing management, professional, and administrative support to high hazard operations and projects for commercial clients and the federal government, including the DOE and the Department of Defense. With more than 80 full time employees, the company has extensive experience in:

- Transportation and Construction Services
- Safety and Health Program Management
- Engineering and Project Management
- Deactivation, Decontamination, and Demolition

Joni Armes, TOPS President, with Karen Reeve at an ETEBA conference

Legislative Briefs

Senate Bill Requiring Increased Reporting of Contract Awards Made to Service Disabled Veterans

The “Honoring Promises to Service-Disabled Veterans Act of 2011,” S 1154, was introduced on June 7, 2011. The bill would require the Small Business Administration to issue quarterly reports identifying:

- the percentage of contracts (by prime contract value) awarded to service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs),
- the weighted average percentage goals for each contractor, and
- the percentage of subcontracts (by total value) awarded to SDVOSBs.

Senate Bill S1154 would also require these reports to be posted to a publicly available website. The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.
UCOR Supports Local Events

From its inception, UCOR has actively participated in and sponsored local Small Business Outreach events. Below are some of the 2011 events.

- UCOR was a sponsor of Y-12 National Security Complex Fifth Annual East Tennessee Veterans Business Conference, August 1-2, 2011. August 1, 2011, was UCOR’s first official business day. UCOR had a booth and Tony Fountain, Chief Financial Officer and Business Manager, participated in a panel session. After explaining the UCOR mission at ETTP, Fountain emphasized that “UCOR is committed to Small Business.”
- UCOR supported the Federal Outreach to Small Business Summit with Secretary of Energy Dr. Steven Chu and Congressman James Clyburn in Orangeburg, SC, on August 23, 2011.
- UCOR participated in the Monroe County Chamber of Commerce/WSI Oak Ridge Joint Outreach to Small Business Information Meeting on September 21, 2011.
- UCOR was a Platinum Sponsor for the 12th Annual ETEBA Business Opportunities Conference in Knoxville on November 1-3, 2011.
- Tennessee Veterans Business Association hosted a “Meet and Greet” networking social with Leo Sain, President and Project Manager speaking and other UCOR management attending on Thursday, November 10, 2011.
- UCOR participated in the Native American Heritage Month Celebration presented by WSI Oak Ridge with speaker Roxie Schesche, member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe and President of Indian Eyes LLC. Roxie spoke about her childhood and the success of her company. Her company is 8(a), SDB, HUBZone, Native American and Woman-Owned and provides the following services nationwide: staffing, payroll, construction, engineering, and environmental.

UCOR Small Business Statistics

Summary FY 2012: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms
The quality of a person’s life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavor.

Vince Lombardi

Do You Know SAM?

If you know FedBizOpps, FPDS-NG (Federal Procurement Data System – Next Generation), CCR, ORCA EPLS, PPIRS, ESRs, and Wage Determinations On-Line, then you will know SAM. SAM is the anticipated integrated acquisition data management system that will house data from the above-mentioned eight existing web-based platforms. GSA is responsible for creating and maintaining the new integrated procurement platform. The new system is expected to provide assistance by:

• freeing vendors from having to enter business identifiers in multiple systems;
• allowing vendors to describe their businesses and complete representations and certifications once instead of twice; and
• providing a list of NAICS size determination tables in the same location that vendors record their size attributes.

SAM is also expected to reduce errors in acquisition data and help contracting officers make fewer awards to unqualified vendors by providing one database to check vendor size, status (small, SWOB, HUB-Zone, 8(a), SDB, SDVOB, SVOB), NAICS Code, and non-eligibility for award (Excluded Parties Listing).