



Welcome

Watch out for all the little bugs that like to bite people. If you are spending time outside, wear protective clothing such as long sleeves and long pants. This is the time of year that critters are out.

If you don't want to wear protective clothing, products are available that will deter insects and help you avoid being bitten.

Meet Joe Hudson

Joe is the Subcontracts Manager UCOR. He has more than 31 years of Purchasing and Subcontracting experience with DOE prime contractors in Oak Ridge, beginning with Union Carbide in 1982. Prior to that, he taught school for six years.

Joe graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree from Tennessee Wesleyan College, Athens, Tenn.

Joe and his wife, Becky, have two children, Brian and Rachel, who are both students at the University of Tennessee.

Joe grew up in Sweetwater and moved to Tellico Village in Loudon County in 1998. He enjoys golf, fishing, living and playing on the lake.



Joe Hudson

ChallengeHer Event Held to Highlight Opportunities

On May 23, the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) partnered with the U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP), and American Express OPEN to conduct a one-day woman-owned small business forum called ChallengeHer, "Opportunities for women in Federal Contracting." The event was held in DOE's Main Auditorium in Washington, DC.

This event offered a distinctive occasion for women contractors to learn how energy, technology, and innovation can fuel their procurement dreams. The speakers in the morning included John Hale III, Deputy Director, OSDBU; Barbara Kasoff, President WIPP; and John Shoraka, Associate Administrator of Government Contracting and Business Development, SBA.

Karen Reeve and Vincent Maivelett were invited to speak on URS Small Business Overview and UCOR mentor/protégé relationships. The afternoon had some excellent panels of women speakers. This month's issue of this newsletter will highlight that event.

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Barbara Kasoff



Antonella Pianalto

Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP)

WIPP is a nonpartisan organization that educates and advocates on behalf of women-owned small businesses (WOSB). Since its inception in June of 2001, WIPP has reviewed, provided input, and taken specific positions on many economic issues and policies. WIPP has been an outspoken advocate of a program to support WOSB procurement since 2001. It took more than a decade of work from the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2000 (P.L. 106-554), which required the program's establishment, to finally implement the WOSB Procurement Program.

Some of the issues covered are:

- Current legislative policies
- Affordable health care
- Leveling the playing field for women-owned businesses
- Opening up federal procurement policies
- Laws which seek to encourage women in the marketplace

WIPP educates women small business owners on economic policy and current legislative initiatives that impact business health and growth. WIPP's Government Relations team has a full-time presence on Capitol Hill and conveys the direction and intent of WIPP's membership to members of Congress.

WIPP represents over one million members. The membership is surveyed on a regular basis to determine which issues are priority, and members work together in issue-centric committees to research and advise WIPP's Government Relations team.

WIPP has advocated for improvements to the WOSB procurement program, including increased education to contracting officers about the program, outreach efforts to women business owners, and the removal of statutory dollar limits.

Barbara Kasoff, President and CEO of WIPP, spoke about WIPP to the 150 small business owners at ChallengeHer.

Most recently, in 2013 WIPP launched a national campaign, in partnership with the SBA and American Express OPEN, to boost government contracting opportunities for women-owned small businesses.

Antonella Pianalto, Vice President of Government Affairs, American Express Company, spoke about their commitment to helping women-owned small businesses.

The initiative, ChallengeHer, provides women entrepreneurs with the knowledge and connections they need to successfully compete in the government marketplace through workshops, an online curriculum, and mentoring opportunities.

ChallengeHer Features Workshop Panels

ChallengeHer featured speakers from the SBA, General Services Administration (GSA), Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Thomas Jefferson National Accelerator Facility, and UCOR. The workshops focused on the system for award management, GSA schedules, DOE's Mentor Protégé Program, and business success stories of DOE Mentors from different sites offices.

The Small Business Success Stories were chosen from past winners of the DOE Small Business Awards Pro-

gram. It was great for these women to tell their stories and to encourage the other small businesses attending the event.

Both panels had moderators asking questions to women-owned company presidents and CEOs such as "How did you get your start?," "What were the barriers and challenges you had?" "Did you have any help?" "What did you learn?" These panels were very beneficial to all the small women-owned businesses in the audience.



First panel of speakers, from left: Moderator Alejandra Castillo, National Deputy Directory Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA); Lisa Firestone, MHSA, President/CEO, Managed Care Advisors; Jennifer Bisceglie, President/CEO, Interos Solutions, Inc.; and Judy Sheppard, President/CEO, Professional Services of America

The second panel included, from left, Moderator Melissa Rider, Senior Contracting Advisor to Office of Environmental Management's (EM) Deputy Assistance Secretary for Acquisition and Project Management, Office of EM DOE; Alice Hwang, CEO/CFO, Advanced Technologies and Laboratories International, Inc.; Rachel Ramirez, CEO/President, Performance Excellence Partners, Inc.; and Elise Hernandez, President, Ideal Systems Solutions, Inc.





Antonella Pianalto and Cassandra McGee Stuart, Acting Director of the Small Business Programs Office, ORNL



Vince Maivelett and Karen Reeve of UCOR give a presentation on mentoring at ChallengeHer



John Hale III, Deputy Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, is pictured with Reeve and Maivelett at ChallengeHer.

RSI Named Subcontractor of Year

The U.S. Small Business Administration has named Restoration Services, Inc. as Subcontractor of the Year in Region IV. That region includes eight southeastern states.

RSI was recognized for its hard work, innovative ideas, and dedication to the community.

The SBA Region IV includes Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

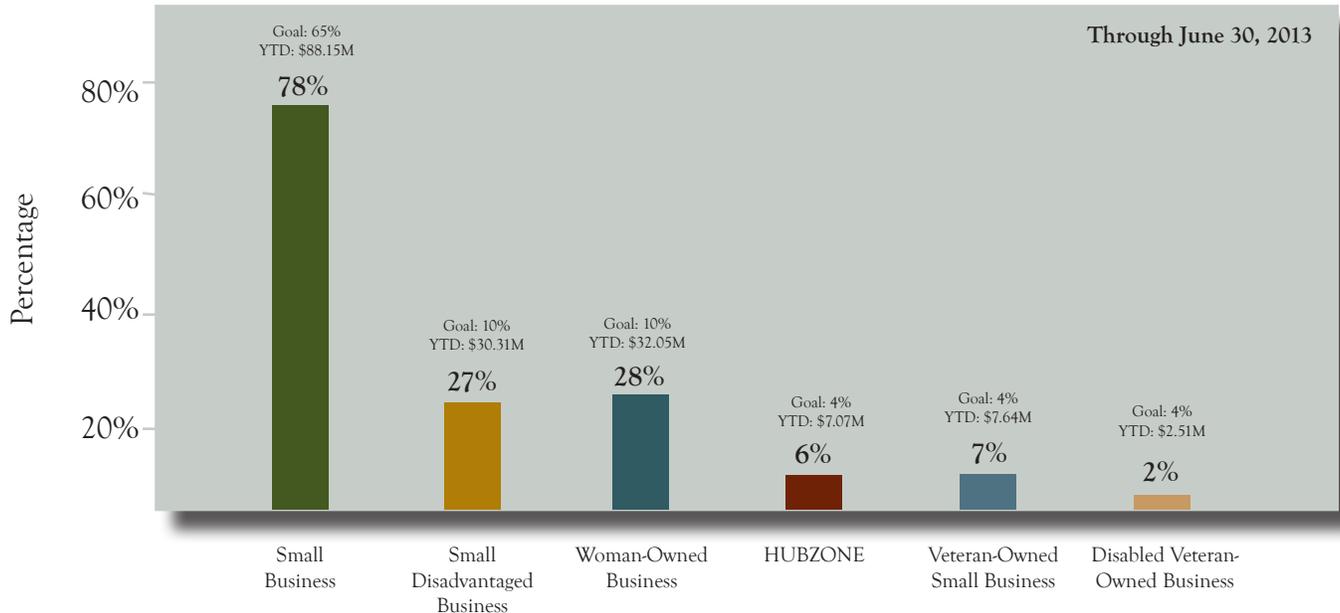
UCOR nominated RSI, its subcontracting partner, for the award. Among the reasons for RSI winning was its implementation of an integrated characterization approach that saved UCOR \$1.3 million in Fiscal Year 2012 and \$2 million in FY 2013. The company also continues to have an outstanding safety record with much of their work being performed in high-hazard settings.



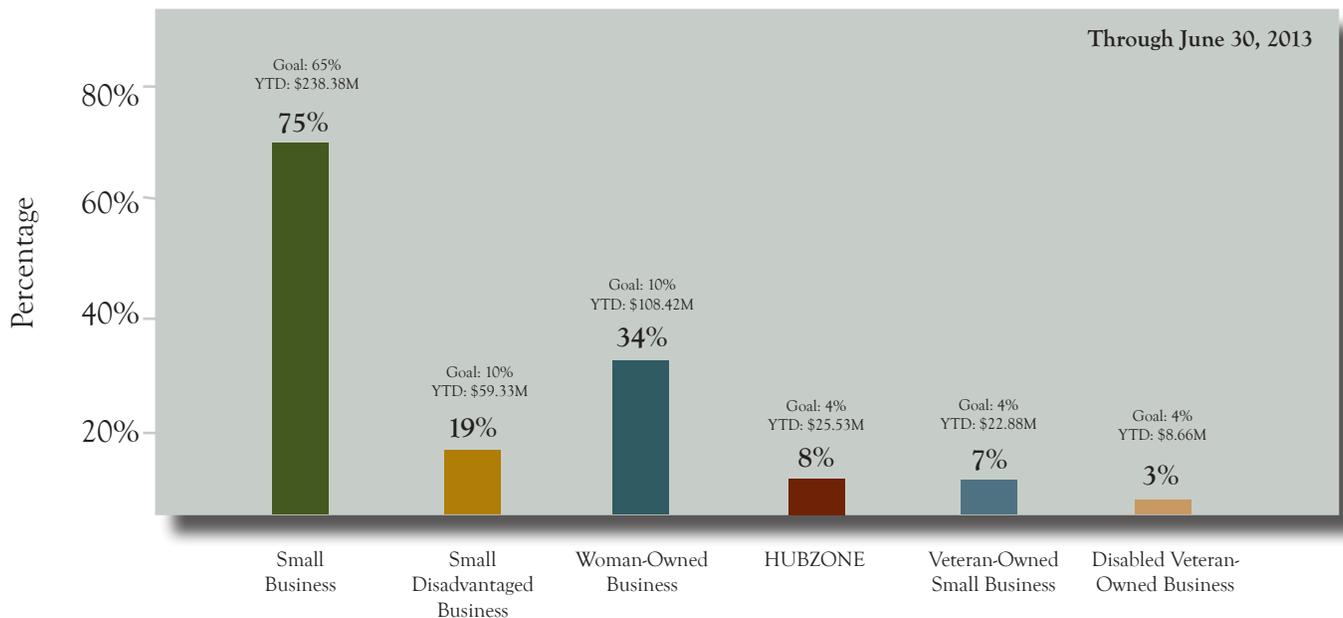
UCOR presented RSI (its teaming subcontractor) an award for winning the SBA 2013 District IV Subcontractor of the Year

UCOR Small Business Statistics

Summary FY 2013: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms



Inception to Date: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms



We would love to hear from you! Please contact us at (865) 576-5643 (phone), or Karen.reeve@ettp.doe.gov (email).