



UCOR
URS|CH2M
Oak Ridge LLC

Small Business News

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UCOR honors small businesses at 4th annual event

On August 15, UCOR held its 2016 4th Annual Small Business Awards Breakfast at the DoubleTree in Oak Ridge. UCOR established a program for identifying judging, selecting, and recognizing subcontractors who best demonstrate their commitment to excellence in safe performance of their subcontract and their commitment to responsible corporate citizenship. UCOR recognizes companies that set the standard, raise the bar, and distinguish themselves from their peers. This includes those subcontractors who best demonstrate a shared vision and shared commitment with UCOR for safety, excellent performance, diversity, and customer satisfaction.

The guest speaker for the awards breakfast was John Hale III - Director, DOE Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. Also in attendance was Sue Cange - Manager, Department of Energy's Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management who introduced our guest speaker. The following businesses were recognized:



John Hale III, Director, DOE Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, addresses attendees at the 2016 UCOR Small Business Awards ceremony. Also pictured, from left, are Sue Cange, Manager of the DOE Oak Ridge Office of Environmental Management; Freda Hopper; and Ken Rueter, UCOR President and Project Manager.

Small Business of the Year – Crossville Hydraulics

A Small Business that has been providing cylinder manufacturing and re-manufacturing since 1985. The company was first located in Florida and moved to Crossville in 1997. The company started with two employees and has grown to a staff of 16. Crossville Hydraulics has provided UCOR with exceptional customer service by providing a prompt turnaround time on repair and re-build of cylinders for the demolition equipment and keeping the D&D Project abreast of any additional repairs needed to the cylinders. This has helped the Project avoid delays and keep our equipment operational in order to meet demo milestones. The Project stated that they are one of the best small businesses that they have worked with.



Small Disadvantaged Business of the Year – Oak Ridge Automotive

This business provides UCOR with automotive and heavy equipment parts which keeps our equipment and fleet vehicles operational. The company has been in business more than 70 years. Oak Ridge Automotive has an outstanding response time to orders and issues. They almost always reply immediately after a request is sent and are usually able to deliver the next day, if not the same day. Due to the demanding schedule our projects are on, this keeps delays in repairing equipment and vehicles down to a minimum. We appreciate that Oak Ridge Automotive helps UCOR operate smoothly.



HUBZone Small Business of the Year – Smee + Busby Architects

A small business located on Market Square in downtown Knoxville. Smee + Busby is UCOR's subcontractor for "Design and Museum Professional Services for ETPP Site Interpretation and K-25 Historic Preservation." This really means they are leading a multi-faceted team of very talented and visionary people who are



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UCOR honors small businesses (continued from p. 1)

responsible for designing what will probably become known as the “K-25 Museum,” Smee + Busby, along with other primary subcontractors, recently completed the Preliminary Design and entered into the Final Design phase for two very significant facilities. The Smee + Busby team developed an innovative conceptual design that has been highly praised by DOE and the numerous consulting parties that entered into a Memorandum of Agreement in 2012 to commemorate the history of the K-25 Building. The Smee + Busby team has been extremely flexible and responsive to several changes in direction that have been brought about by budgetary constraints, some of which quite literally sent them back to the drawing board. Through it all the entire team has remained highly professional, enthusiastic and dedicated to this project.

Woman Owned Small Business of the Year – FireWater Associates, LLC

A woman-owned small business (WOSB) providing value-added technical consulting and contracting services to commercial and government clients. The company has consistently provided UCOR with knowledgeable and experienced personnel since 2009. FireWater provides waste management technical support to all of the Y-12 Surveillance & Maintenance Projects as well as projects at ORNL and ETPP. FireWater brings more than 24 years of experience in waste management, transportation, and project management to the Oak Ridge Reservation for UCOR. FireWater has provided the project management for several waste related projects including American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funded projects. In 2013, FireWater provided Andy White as the PM for the UCOR Five Tanks Project at the Contaminated Construction Soils Pile at Y-12. This project was one of the most successful American Recovery and Reinvestment Act projects for UCOR in 2013. Firewater successfully navigated the various procedural differences of B&W and UCOR keeping the project on schedule, under budget and completely safe.



Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year – Claiborne Hauling LLC

Claiborne Hauling LLC started with one single axle dump truck in 1997 and now has more than 175 trucks and equipment in its fleet. UCOR has had an Aggregate materials blanket purchase order with Claiborne since March 9, 2015. They have always been very responsive when called for deliveries (even at the last minute) and have resolved issues promptly when they came up. “Real good to work with,” Gary Buttry of the Environmental Management Waste Management Facility said. UCOR is committed to fostering a strong safety culture and a safety conscious work environment and Claiborne has done their part by adhering to special instructions given to them about accessing and driving on our sites safely.



Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business of the Year – Premier Contracting & Technical Services

Premier Contracting & Technical Services (PCTS) was formed in 2013 to support the industrial needs of the Oak Ridge Reservation. Ken Simpson, President of PCTS, is a service-disabled Air Force veteran who has more than 40 years of experience in dealing with the procurement process. Steve Watson, VP of Sales for PCTS, also has more than 40 years of experience in dealing with product needs and services throughout the Oak Ridge Reservation. PCTS supplies UCOR with every day goods and products such as hand and power tools, hardware, fasteners, adhesives, safety items, furniture, motors, and sanitary supplies. They also have provided UCOR with heavy equipment such as scissor lifts, forklifts, and excavators. PCTS does everything possible to meet our demanding schedule and get us what we need when we need it. It always goes above and beyond what is expected and catches potential problems and offers suggestions to remediate the problems fast. We sincerely appreciate the company’s responsiveness.



Conference participation this spring and summer

UCOR Small Business Manager Freda H. Hopper attended various conference during the past few months. These included the following:

- 26th Annual Government Procurement Conference on April 6. at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington DC. This was a national conference fostering business partnerships between the Federal Government, its prime Contractors, and small, minority, service-disabled Veteran-owned, veteran-owned, HUBZone, and women-owned businesses.
- The 15th Annual DOE Small Business Forum and Expo, May 23-26, in Atlanta, Georgia. More than 900 attendees and vendors attended this conference. Secretary of Energy, Dr. Ernest Moniz attended and brought welcome to the participants. The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) presented seventeen (17) award recipients with awards at the 15th Annual DOE Small Business Forum & Expo on May 24, 2016. Awards were presented by DOE's OSDBU Director, John Hale III and Drake Russell, Deputy Director, OSDBU. Natasha White, DOE EM Small Business Program Manager attended as well.
- East Tennessee Purchasing Association on July 21, in Knoxville. This event helped procurement outreach and supplier diversity goals by bringing hundreds of vendors together. There was no cost to participate as a matchmaker in this event. The purpose of this event is to match small businesses with governmental agencies that have business opportunities. Additionally, they allowed "Tradeshaw Vendors" to have sessions with attendees. There were three distinct attendees at this meeting: government agencies, tradeshow vendors, and free business attendees.
- Tennessee/Kentucky Procurement & Matchmaking conference, held July 28 at Austin Pea State University in Clarksville, Tennessee. This event was sponsored by the U.S. Small Business



Freda Hopper, fourth from left, at the 26th Annual Government Procurement Conference.

Administration and the Tennessee Small Business Development Center at Austin Pea State University. The theme was "Smart Bold Accessible: What Can SBA Do For You?" Attendees were able to receive one-on-one counseling related to management, marketing, operations, and other business services that meets their needs. Attendees also had the opportunity to network with procurement officials, as well as, industry officials. There were several workshops for small businesses such as Doing Business with the U.S. Government; Certification & Eligibility Requirements; and Doing Business w/the University of Tennessee. Approximately 100 attendees participated in this event.



15th Annual Small Business Forum and Expo



New subcontracting requirements added to the FAR

WHAT: The Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Council issued a final rule incorporating various Small Business Administration (SBA) regulations concerning small business subcontracting into the FAR. Among the new FAR provisions is the requirement that a prime contractor make a good faith effort to utilize the small business subcontractors that it included or relied upon when submitting its proposal, at the same or greater scope or amount as proposed; provide a written explanation to the contracting officer if the prime contractor fails to utilize a small business subcontractor to the same extent proposed; and provide more information in notifications to unsuccessful subcontract offerors, such as the location and socioeconomic status of the subcontract awardee.

WHEN: The final rule was issued on July 14, 2016, and is effective November 1, 2016.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR INDUSTRY: The final rule makes a number of changes to FAR 52.219-9, Small Business Subcontracting Plans. Large business prime contractors should review their subcontracting plan templates and update them as necessary to incorporate the new requirements. Contractors in the process of preparing proposals should also ensure that they have the capacity to utilize their proposed small business subcontractors at the level proposed, or else be prepared to justify the failure to use a particular subcontractor to the contracting officer.

New FOIA Act necessitates robust exemption record

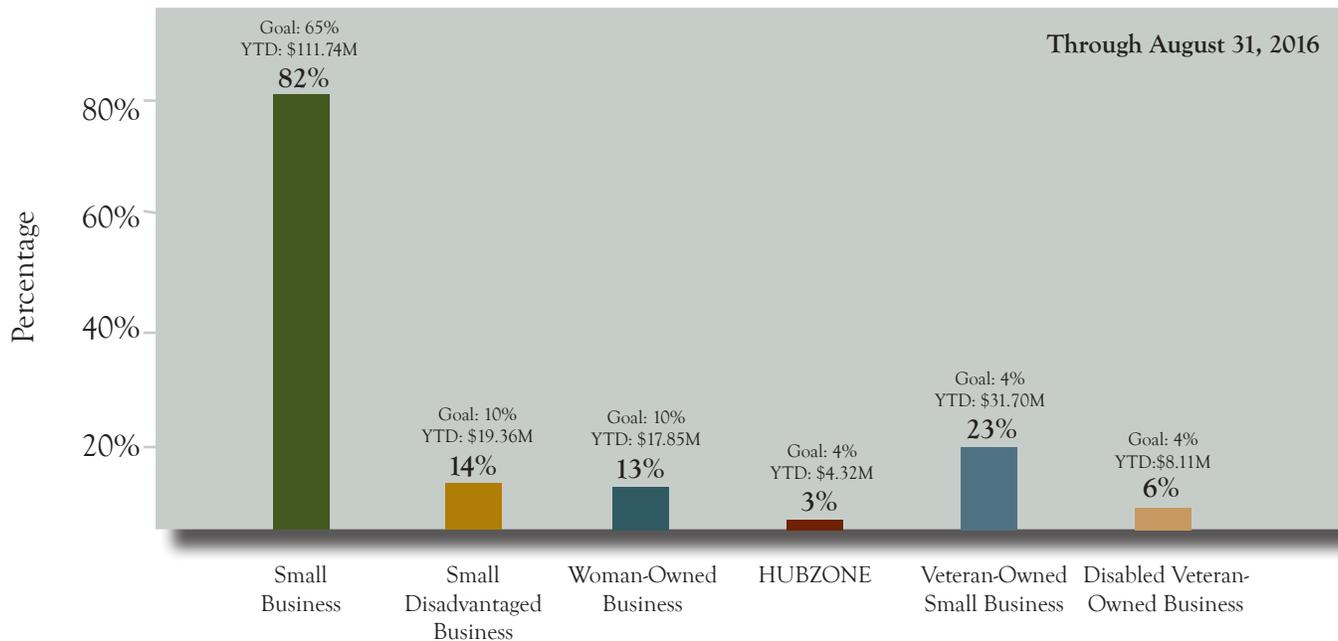
WHAT: President Obama recently signed into law the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Improvement Act of 2016. The stated goal of the Act is to codify the presumption-of-openness policy for FOIA responses. Agencies will be prohibited from withholding requested information unless they make a determination that “the agency reasonably foresees that disclosure would harm an interest protected by an exemption” to FOIA, or where the release would be prohibited by law. The Act also establishes new administrative review and dispute resolution processes for FOIA requesters that disagree with agency decisions to withhold information, and creates a government-wide online portal to streamline the FOIA request process.

WHEN: President Obama signed the Act into law on June 30, 2016. It is effective immediately and applies to all FOIA requests submitted after June 30, 2016. Some provisions of the Act, such as the new online portal, will be implemented later this year.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR INDUSTRY: The new FOIA provisions could increase the burden on a contractor claiming an exemption to demonstrate both the statutory basis for the exemption and the “harm” that would result from releasing the information. Contractors should do even more on the front end to justify proposed redactions or withholdings and provide agencies with targeted proposed redactions. These measures will help agencies develop a robust record to support any proposed redactions or withholdings in response to future FOIA requests.

UCOR Small Business Statistics

Summary FY 2016: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms



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

