



On the Economic Scene



A weekly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Department of Economic Development

February 2, 2015

ONLINE VERSION AT FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG

EXPORT ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE -- The Florida Small Business Development Center Network and Enterprise Florida Inc. have solidified their partnership to assist Florida companies tap into overseas markets. In partnership with the U.S. Commercial Service, they are offering a scholarship export assistance program to help businesses identify overseas growth strategies. New and infrequent export manufacturers and professional service providers can meet with a Florida SBDC international trade specialist to prepare a customized export marketing plan. For information call Leigh Shapleigh at Volusia County Economic Development at 386-248-8048 or email Lshapleigh@volusia.org.

SEMINAR ON OUTSTANDING SERVICE TECHNIQUES -- The local SCORE chapter will present a free workshop that will combine the best customer service practices and techniques. The session will be February 10 from 6 - 8 p.m. at the UCF Business Incubator at Daytona Beach Airport. For reservations go to: score87.org or call 386-255-6889.

U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE VIDEOS FOCUS ON AGRIBUSINESS EXPORTING -- Six upcoming videos target U.S. companies in agribusiness. Topics include gathering international market intelligence; finding and managing international partners; export readiness; networking; exporting from rural areas, and making the most of trade shows. For information go to: export.gov/industry/agribusiness/eg_main_076698.asp.

SECRET PURCHASES PRETTY COMMON -- A recent survey by CreditCards.com suggest that millions of Americans have hidden a bank or credit card account from their spouse or significant other. About one in five Americans have spent \$500 or more on a purchase without their partner's knowledge. Almost a third of men are fine with their spouse or partner spending more than \$500 without their knowledge, compared with 18 percent of women. The biggest secret spenders are people ages 18 - 29.

FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS TOPIC OF EVENT-- With the addition of new free trade agreements with Panama, Colombia, and South Korea, the time never has been better for international trade. However, success requires an understanding of the rules and regulations of the North American Free Trade Agreement and the three new agreements. An event hosted by the Central Florida International Trade Office February 11 will explore this topic in-depth. To register go to: tinyurl.com/mtvbx27.

WORKSHOP TO COVER QUICKBOOKS -- The Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at Daytona State College will present a workshop on Quickbooks. The workshop will cover set up, forms, lists, registers, inventory, invoices, payment processing, accounts, reports and graphs, paying sales tax, payroll, and job costing. The workshop is February 10 from 6 - 8 p.m. at Daytona State College. To register call Tracy Martin at 386-506-4723.

M3T TEAM READY TO PROVIDE EXPORT HELP -- The U.S. Commercial Service's Machinery, Materials & Technology (M3T) Team is a service for U.S. manufacturers who want to export. The M3T Team's in-depth industry experts provide up-to-date export assistance and value-added services for the export of industrial machinery and materials in the chemicals, plastics, composites, paper/pulp, material handling, metal working and machine tools sectors. For information, call Leigh Shapleigh at Volusia County Economic Development at 386-248-8048 or email Lshapleigh@volusia.org.

TOP TRADE SHOWS ON TAP -- Expo Manufactura 2015, the industrial showcase of northern Mexico, will be February 3 - 5 in Monterrey, Mexico. For information go to: expomanufactura.com.mx. **NPE 2015**, the international plastics showcase, will be March 23 - 27 in Orlando. Matchmaking services are available. For information go to: npe.org. The **ACREX India** show, February 26 - 28 in Bangalore, India, focuses on heating, refrigeration and air conditioning industries. For information go to: acrex.in. For additional information go to: export.gov/industry/manufacturing/index.asp.

NEWS ITEMS WANTED! -- Please send your business news items to Dave Byron, Volusia County Community Services Department Director, at dbyron@volusia.org. If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.