

The logo for the Delaware Economic Development Office features the word "Delaware" in a large, elegant, black cursive script. Below it, the words "ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE" are written in a smaller, black, all-caps, sans-serif font, spaced out evenly.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

NEWS RELEASE

DEDO to Host BRAC Conference on Oct. 30

Businesses will Network with Nation's Largest Defense Contractors

DOVER, Del. (August 27, 2009) – As businesses and personnel throughout the region continue to assess the impact of Base Realignment and Closure, the state of Delaware is taking advantage of all business growth opportunities. On Friday, Oct. 30, the Delaware Economic Development Office will host the 2009 BRAC and Beyond Business Conference, presented by Coldwell Banker Preferred at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington.

The conference is designed specifically for firms and employers relocating from Fort Monmouth, N.J. to the Aberdeen Proving Ground area, as well as small businesses seeking opportunities to serve these firms and the billions of dollars in developing government contracts. It is just one of a series of statewide initiatives to position Delaware businesses and inform citizens about the regional opportunities developing now and beyond 2011, when the technical functions from Fort Monmouth, N.J. to the APG are due to be completed.

Governor Jack Markell will open the day-long conference. Additional speakers and presenters include top leaders from the U.S. Army Headquarters Small Business Program Office, the Mid-Atlantic Regional SpacePort (MARS), University of Delaware Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships and business development representatives from some of the region's largest defense contractors.

The Keynote Luncheon Speaker is Director Anthony Bell, chief of Small Business Programs at the US Army Corps of Engineers. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is receiving the overwhelming majority of the BRAC budget.

The conference will also feature breakout sessions to prepare Delaware businesses with the critical information they need to position themselves as government contractors including: how to acquire facility security clearances; how to prepare to do work for the government; the small business opportunities evolving at Aberdeen from the Army Material Command, Army Corps of Engineers and their subordinate commands; and the evolving regional opportunities at NASA Wallops Island at Chincoteague, Va; and much, much more.

New this year, all attendees will receive a packet of important government purchasing information. It includes the most recent buying patterns, which discloses what the government is buying NOW. Additionally, all qualified attendees will have an opportunity to sign-up for one-on-one business

appointments or “matchmaking” sessions with major prime contractors and Delaware government contractors. Early registration is required.

The Exclusive Title Sponsor for the event is Coldwell Banker Preferred. The conference is presented in collaboration with the following partners: Delaware’s Small Business Development Center, University of Delaware Office of Economic Innovation and Partnerships, city of Wilmington Economic Development Office, and New Castle County Government.

For additional information about the conference, including sponsorship opportunities, session topics, speakers and registration, visit www.dedo.delaware.gov/brac or call 302-672-6857.

About the Delaware Economic Development Office

The Delaware Economic Development Office is an executive state agency responsible for attracting new investors and businesses to the state, promoting the expansion of existing industry, assisting small and minority-owned businesses, promoting and developing tourism and creating new and improved employment opportunities for all citizens of the State. DEDO is a Certified Economic Development Organization, accredited by the International Economic Development Council. Visit dedo.delaware.gov.

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