Kennedy Space Center (KSC) continues to provide a major boost to the Florida and local economies. While contracts with major corporations often receive the highest visibility, the space agency also places emphasis on working with all small businesses, including outreach to service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs), woman-owned small businesses (WOSBs), and firms in Historically Underutilized Businesses Zones, or HUBZones.

To further this effort, Kennedy hosted a HUBZone Industry Day and Expo 2012 on October 16 at Port Canaveral, FL. The event provided an opportunity for business leaders interested in government contracting opportunities to see what local and national vendors have to offer.

“The HUBZone program helps small businesses in urban and rural communities gain preferential access to federal procurement opportunities,” the Small Business Administration states on its Web site. These preferences go to small businesses that obtain HUBZone certification in part by employing staff who live in a HUBZone. The company also must maintain a “principal office” in one of these specially designated areas.

(continued on page 3)
implementation of small business programs at the NSSC. As a small business advocate, Watts has a strong commitment to helping small and minority businesses grow and succeed through Federal contracting. He strives to expand and promote opportunities for businesses in the categories of Small, Disadvantaged, 8(a), Woman-Owned, Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone), Veteran-Owned, and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned.

Watts currently attends Christian Bible College, where he is studying to obtain a theology degree. He holds a bachelor’s degree in business and an M.B.A.

After high school, Watts joined the military; he retired after 21 years of service. Upon retiring, he worked in the commercial sector as a Program Manager supporting the Air Force and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in support of Hurricane Katrina. Watts joined the Federal workforce in 2010, where he has been intimately involved with the rebuilding of the levees in and around New Orleans, LA.

He is a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated and enjoys spending time with his sons, Robert and Charles, as a youth football coach.

What made you want to become a Small Business Specialist?

Hurricane Katrina placed many Federal workers, particularly in contracting, in a position to have to work problem resolutions for a large number of small businesses. These up-close and personal experiences gave me a real appreciation for some of the challenges that small businesses face, not only with finding opportunities but being treated fairly in terms of their competitive environment and being compensated for their efforts after project completion.

What is your favorite part of being a Small Business Specialist?

If there were a singular circumstance that stands out to me it would be those moments when we speak to small firms that are new to doing business with NASA and they have a “wow” moment. It’s those rare opportunities when we as SBSs are able to share with them information, during counseling or one-on-one sessions, that has a significant impact on their specific firm and it was something they did not know.

In your opinion, what is the biggest issue facing small business this year or in the future?

Whether it’s feeling the pinch of a slow economic recovery or low customer confidence in those goods and services offered by small business, we can all agree there are a number of significant issues facing America’s small businesses. It’s no secret small business is the engine that runs our country, but tough times like these highlight the difficulties associated with remaining focused and committed to those entrepreneurs trying to sustain and remain competitive in today’s business environment.

Still, I think we all understand the role of small business in our society and are committed to helping and strengthening our Nation’s small businesses. The Small Business Job Act of 2010 and the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) Memorandum dated June 6, 2012, are two such examples of this commitment. The Small Business Job Act of 2010 signed by President Obama may be the most significant piece of small business legislation in over a decade. The new law extended the successful Small Business Administration enhanced loan provisions while offering billions more in lending support, tax cuts, and other opportunities for entrepreneurs and small business owners.

The June 6, 2012, OFPP Memorandum requested each agency to take immediate steps to ensure that small businesses are utilized to the maximum extent practicable. The swift joint response by NASA’s Office of Small Business Programs and the Office of Procurement, in my opinion, is a testament to our Agency’s steadfast commitment to small business.

(continued on page 3)
team. So I want to thank each and every one of them for what they have accomplished over the past 5 years; it’s something we should take great pride in. I do understand that the team could not have done this without all the other people throughout NASA who are involved in the acquisition process, and I want to say “thank you” to them also. Most importantly, I do want to publicly state that the support the team received from the Administrator and several other members of the senior leadership team were instrumental in the team success.

With FY 2012 behind us, I am now focusing on the numerous challenges that face the Agency in FY 2013 and beyond. The Agency small business goal climbs from 15.2 percent in FY 2012 to 17.2 percent in FY 2013. So we can’t rest on our successes from last year, and the team needs to begin finding ways to incorporate small businesses into the new and exciting missions of NASA. We are currently rolling out new ways to assist small businesses in understanding NASA’s acquisition forecasts and holding outreach events at the various Centers where they can interact with several of the technical personnel in order to better understand our future requirements.

In closing, I want to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy holiday season and a happy new year.

GLENN A. DELGADO
ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR
NASA OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

Cover Story (continued from page 1)

According to KSC Small Business Specialist Larry Third, it is important to reach out to underutilized businesses. “All small businesses are important,” Third said. “For the fiscal year just completed (2012), Kennedy met all its goals, awarding over $300 million worth of contracts with small businesses.” Kennedy’s annual report for fiscal year 2011 noted that NASA spending contributes more than $1.7 billion to the Florida economy.

Third explains that there is room for improvement in certain socioeconomic categories. “So we want to give small businesses in these categories more opportunities through events such as our HUBZone Industry Day and Expo,” he said.

KSC Director Bob Cabana underscored the value of small businesses during opening ceremonies. “Small businesses are a key part of what we do at the Kennedy Space Center,” he said. “In 2011 Kennedy contracted $247 million directly with small businesses. In fiscal year 2012, the year just finished up, that number increased to $305 million.”

Cabana noted that NASA now is setting its sights on exploring beyond low-Earth orbit and going farther than ever before. “To support the NASA mission, KSC is transforming from a traditional, one-system launch complex to a state-of-the-art, multiuser launch complex supporting both government and commercial cargo and crew missions to space,” he said. “We will continue to foster new relationships with the small business community.”

Also participating in the opening ceremonies were U.S. Congressman Bill Posey, NASA Chief of Staff David Radzanowski, NASA Associate Administrator for the Office of Small Business Programs Glenn Delgado, Kennedy Associate Director Kelvin Manning, Vice Commander for the 45th Space Wing Colonel Rory Welch, and Senior Director of Business Development for the Economic Development Commission of Florida’s Space Coast Gregory Weiner.

The annual trade show was sponsored by Kennedy’s Prime Contractor Board, the U.S. Air Force 45th Space Wing, and the Canaveral Port Authority. The event featured about 175 large and small businesses and government exhibitors from Brevard County and across the Nation.

“The outreach event gives all small businesses, including HUBZone businesses, an opportunity to meet and talk with NASA prime contractors, contracting officers, and Small Business Specialists in a one-stop-shopping setup,” said Third.

NASA’s Central Industry Assistance Office works with the contractor board to help small businesses learn how to navigate in the world of Government contracting. “We had 135 exhibitors signed up,” said Third. “Last year we had over 500 people attend the Expo. This year we exceeded that number.” Exhibitors included vendors from product and service areas, such as engineering services, computer technology, communication equipment and services, and construction and safety products. Representatives from NASA, the 45th Space Wing, prime contractors, and many other agencies and organizations provided information and answered questions.

“NASA wants to place additional emphasis on reaching Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned, Woman-Owned, and HUBZone small businesses,” Third said. “This is the first year the focus of the event has been specifically on HUBZones. We want HUBZone businesses to have more opportunities to bid on direct contracts and to be subcontractors on the large business contracts.”

MINOR EDITING WAS DONE IN THIS ARTICLE.

The original article may be viewed online at http://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/home/kennedy_hosts_hub_expo.html.
OSBP REACHES OUT TO HUBZONES!

DAVID B. GROVE, PROGRAM MANAGER
NASA OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAMS

NATIONAL HUBZONE CONFERENCE

On September 5, 2012, the NASA Office of Small Business Programs participated in the National HUBZone Conference at the Liaison Capitol Hill Hotel in Washington, DC. This annual conference attracts hundreds of HUBZone-certified small business owners, Federal officials, and prime contractors.

NASA participated in one-on-one matchmaking with interested HUBZone companies. Matchmaking allows the NASA counselors to discuss potential requirements that may be of interest to a particular company. We have contract lists that include the areas of information technology, protective services, environmental remediation, facilities, occupational health, laboratory services, and administrative support. Depending upon the firm, we select the best list to meet the company’s needs and describe in detail what the firm needs to do to compete in this area. We also go over the acquisition forecast, which has over 500 NASA requirements.

In addition, David Grove of Headquarters and Charles Williams of Johnson Space Center held a breakout session called “Responding to Sources Sought Notices.” The breakout session provided background information on how “sources sought” notices are used by NASA and other Federal agencies and, more importantly, examples of questions on how to respond to them. The session was well received, and participants sent NASA numerous e-mails on how the briefing helped them understand the process.

NASA ACQUISITION FORECAST

It is NASA policy (see NASA FAR Supplement 1807.72) to prepare an annual forecast and a semiannual update of expected contract opportunities, or classes of contract opportunities, for each fiscal year. The forecast consolidates anticipated procurements (in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold) at each NASA Center with the aim of increasing industries’ advance knowledge of NASA requirements and enhancing competition.

The procurements described in this forecast are expected to be solicited in this fiscal year and beyond, based on the best information available at the time of publication. All projected procurements are subject to revision or cancellation. Final decisions as to the extent of competition, small or disadvantaged business set-asides, estimated value, etc., will not be made until each procurement is initiated. The data are for planning purposes only; they do not represent a presolicitation synopsis or constitute an invitation for bid or request for proposal, nor are they a commitment by the Government to purchase the described supplies and services. Interested businesses are urged to review FedBizOpps.gov and the NASA Acquisition Internet Service for the actual notice of a pending contract action.

The Consolidated Agency-wide Acquisition Forecast is provided to allow users to search multiple NASA Centers for specific types of opportunities to match their organizational interests. This tool contains “pivot table” capabilities and graphics to easily manipulate and illustrate the data. Please note that there are five separate tabs at the bottom of this Excel-based tool to facilitate use of unique, useful datasets.

For additional information, visit http://www.osbp.nasa.gov or http://wwwhq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/forecast/index.html.
NASA Small Business Policy Update
Craig W. Bowers, Procurement Analyst
NASA Headquarters Office of Procurement

FAR Supplement Rewrite Underway

After an 8-year run, the NASA Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Supplement (NFS) is undergoing a major overhaul. This is a large undertaking involving over 50 individuals at Headquarters and throughout the Centers. The effort is being undertaken in phases. Ten parts have been completed to date. A second group of seven will be completed shortly.

Each NFS part will be worked individually by a small development team with an assigned lead and a supporting team (three to six individuals) made up of subject matter experts from throughout NASA. The small development team will create a draft document incorporating existing Procurement Information Circulars, updating content to coincide with the current FAR, adjusting numbering and formats, and incorporating new initiatives and controls requested by the Assistant Administrator of Procurement and, in the case of Part 19, the OSBP Associate Administrator. Once a draft has been prepared, a formal review by the Rewrite Review Team, composed of representatives from each Center, will occur. The Rewrite Review Team will review the document, involving onsite expertise and management as needed to provide concurrence and/or recommendations. Codified changes will then be processed through the Federal regulation publication process.

Development of the new NFS 1819 review is underway. Want to play? Contact your Center’s point of contact (POC) on the Rewrite Review Team (POCs: Ames Research Center—Pat Hudson, Dryden Flight Research Center—Kari Alvarado, Glenn Research Center—Robin Strohacker, Goddard Space Flight Center—Jim Becker, Johnson Space Center—Bermuda Brittingham, Kennedy Space Center—Janet Thodos, Langley Research Center—Robert Rice, Marshall Space Flight Center—Marty Hudson, NASA Shared Services Center—Tracy Hall, and Stennis Space Center—Rosalind Baker) and inform him or her of your desire to participate and availability. When the draft NFS parts are sent out for Center review, they will have a quick turnaround. It is wise to have the reviewers known and in place before the review period starts.

The great majority of the changes are issues that we have covered at past small business councils. The new NFS should make all of our lives easier, with clearer, more coherent instructions and less need for cross-referencing.

For more information, visit the NASA Office of Procurement at http://www.hq.nasa.gov/office/procurement/.

NASA Small Business Legislative Update
Eve Lyon, Attorney
NASA Headquarters Office of the General Counsel

On August 15, 2012, the DC Federal Circuit issued its opinion in Dynalantic Corp. v. Department of Defense. The case involved the procurement of military simulators and training under the 8(a) program, a program Dynalantic challenged as being unconstitutional.

The 126-page decision exhaustively analyzes strict scrutiny. Strict scrutiny provides that racial classifications are constitutional “only if they are narrowly tailored measures that further compelling governmental interests.”

The first part of the decision pertains to whether there was a compelling governmental interest. Strict scrutiny requires that the Government demonstrate “a strong basis in evidence” supporting its conclusion that race-based remedial action is necessary. The court accepted the various studies, provided by the Government, demonstrating discrimination. The court concluded that the Government “articulated a compelling interest for the Section 8(a) program: breaking down barriers to minority business development created by discrimination and its lingering effects, including the exclusion from contracting with the federal government.”

Dynalantic then alleged that the Government did not have evidence of discrimination in its particular business: military simulation and training. The court followed the holding in City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson Co., 488 U.S. 469 (1989), that the Government must provide evidence demonstrating there were eligible minorities in the relevant market. (This is known as an “as-applied” challenge.) The Government conceded that it did not have evidence of discrimination in this industry.

The court did not look to whether the Government’s remedy was narrowly tailored once it decided that Dynalantic had prevailed on its as-applied challenge. Narrow tailoring requires evidence that the method chosen is specifically and narrowly framed to accomplish the Government’s asserted purpose.

I do not have a crystal ball, but I doubt either party will appeal this decision. Dynalantic received the relief it requested. The decision also upholds the constitutionality of the 8(a) program and the 5-percent goal for Small Disadvantaged Businesses in the Small Business Act. The decision, though, may cause the Small Business Administration to review its regulations on the 8(a) program.
NASA SMALL BUSINESS GOOGLE+ HANGOUT

NASA Administrator Bolden and SBA Administrator Mills “Hangout” with Small Business ATA Engineering, who worked on Curiosity

NASA Administrator Charlie Bolden and Small Business Administration Administrator Karen Mills highlighted the contributions of small businesses to the success of the Curiosity rover’s landing on Mars during a Google+ Hangout on Wednesday, September 19, 2012, with ATA Engineering, headquartered in Herndon, VA.

ATA Engineering partnered with NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) team to test and analyze the entry, descent, and landing of the rover, specifically the wheels, actuators, and thermal control systems.

“The dedicated and mission-focused work of our small business partners like ATA Engineering has been essential to Curiosity’s ongoing success story, and I’m especially proud of NASA’s work with them,” Bolden said. “Curiosity is the largest rover that ever has been sent to another planet and will provide invaluable data regarding Mars that will benefit the scientific community for years to come. Small businesses helped support the design and fabrication of Curiosity and also took part in many other activities that made the mission possible.”

Mills praised ATA Engineering and the many other small businesses that contributed to Curiosity’s successful landing and contribute to NASA’s other science and exploration missions. “ATA Engineering and the many other small businesses involved in the Mars Science Laboratory project embody the entrepreneurial spirit, drive, and ability of America’s small businesses to build groundbreaking tools and parts that help make even the most sophisticated projects successful,” Mills said. “This mission is a shining example of what is possible when America’s small businesses are given the chance to do what they do best.”

ATA Engineering worked with the JPL Curiosity team for 6 years to assist in the development of cutting-edge technologies that led to the Curiosity landing, as well as the tools aboard the rover that will help scientists investigate whether conditions on Mars may have been favorable for microbial life.

“As a 100-percent employee-owned small business, the staff at ATA Engineering is incredibly proud to have been part of the development team for Curiosity,” said Mary Baker, president of ATA Engineering. “Over the course of 6 years, we have had the unique opportunity to work closely with the talented engineers and scientists at NASA-JPL to help drive and validate the design of a number of key subsystems on one of the most exciting robotics development programs in history. Not only do programs like this give small businesses such as ours the opportunity to contribute directly to the development and advancement of state-of-the-art technology, they act as an inspiration to the next generation of engineers and scientists.”

NASA exceeded its small business goal for fiscal year 2011 and was one of only three of the “big seven” Federal agencies—the ones that together spend approximately 90 percent of small business–eligible dollars—that exceeded its small business goals. Approximately $2.5 billion in prime contracts were awarded directly to small businesses in 2011, up about $75 million from the previous year. NASA’s large prime contractors awarded approximately $2 billion in additional subcontracts to small businesses in fiscal year 2011.

NASA also released “Curiosity and NASA’s Mission to Mars,” a publication that details the contributions to this mission from small businesses across the country. To read the document, visit NASA’s Office of Small Business Programs at http://osbp.nasa.gov.

For information about the Small Business Administration, visit http://www.sba.gov.


MINOR EDITING WAS DONE IN THIS ARTICLE.
I recently completed a 7-month detail to the NASA Office of Budget Management and Systems Support (OBMSS), where I served as the Budget Assistant to the Division Director (DD). I provided administrative management, advice, and guidance related to facilities, information technology (IT), space management, records management, and other liaison activities. In addition to supporting the DD for OBMSS, I provided a variety of analytical and expert technical advice and administrative support to the senior budget, management, and program analysts in the OBMSS. I also served as the point of contact for all high-level administrative management policies and procedures, where my responsibilities included making recommendations for the ordering of and upgrading of IT equipment to include, but not limited to, new computers, printers, and mobile devices. My detail experience allowed me opportunities to update Web sites for internal and external customers and ensure proper administrative actions resulting in improvement to the overall effectiveness and efficiency of work operations for the OBMSS. As financial management becomes a greater concern and priority for NASA and the Nation, this detail has allowed me to actively contribute in this critical area to help to ensure the Agency’s ongoing success.

Finally, I would like to thank the Office of Small Business Programs team for allowing me the opportunity to have a great learning experience on my detail.
**Metrics Update**

**Christopher J. Grey, Program Analyst (Contractor)**

NASA Office of Small Business Programs

This is the first metrics report of the new fiscal year and represents the first month of FY 2013.

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**NASA Women-Owned Small Business Industry Day**

February 5, 2013

Moffett Field, CA

Web site: [http://www.osbp.nasa.gov](http://www.osbp.nasa.gov)

**NASA-JPL High-Tech Conference**

March 5–6, 2013

Los Angeles, CA


**5th Annual NASA Small Business Symposium and Awards Ceremony**

April 23–24, 2013

(Registration anticipated to open in January 2013)

Washington, DC

Web site: [http://www.osbp.nasa.gov](http://www.osbp.nasa.gov)

**OSBP Newsletter Article Submission Schedule**

**Deadline:**

- January 31
- April 30
- July 31
- October 31

**Published:**

- March
- June
- September
- December

**OSBP Web Site**

The NASA OSBP Web site helps individuals and companies to navigate small business policies, procedures, and best practices at NASA.

The purpose of the Web site, [http://www.osbp.nasa.gov](http://www.osbp.nasa.gov), is to share the vision of the Small Business Program at NASA, as well as provide pertinent information on how to do business with NASA.

**To Submit an Article**

The Office of Small Business Programs (OSBP) Newsletter is the Quarterly Electronic Publication of the NASA OSBP.

OSBP welcomes articles and opinion pieces that are directed to advocates of small businesses. These articles are printed as space is available and should be approximately 500 words in length. Articles that were printed elsewhere cannot be reprinted in the OSBP Newsletter without written permission from the original printing source. Submissions will be edited as necessary.

Do you have a small business success story that could inspire small business collaboration and advocacy? If so, tell us about it. Send your success story to smallbusiness@nasa.gov. Please type “newsletter” in the subject line of your e-mail.

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**OSBP Staff**

The OSBP Office is a team committed to providing excellence in service and information to the small business community.

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- **David B. Grove**, Program Manager
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- **Raymond P. Moore**, Program Analyst (Contractor)
- **Truphelia M. Parker**, Editor/Program Analyst (Contractor)

**QR Code**

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**NASA Agency October FY13**

Prime Goals vs. Actual Percentages

Data generated November 9, 2012, from FPDS-NG.

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