



SYRACUSE MAYOR HOSTS PARTNERAMERICA™ SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE

Mayor Matthew Driscoll and American Management Services Help Highlight Small Business Development in Syracuse

SYRACUSE, NY (June 23, 2008) – Syracuse’s Mayor Matthew Driscoll recently hosted a Partner America Small Business Conference at the Hotel Syracuse on South Warren Street. A full roster of local, regional and national business experts participated. As part of its continuing practice in working with small and mid-sized businesses, American Management Services and the U.S. Conference of Mayors (USCM) have joined resources since 2000 in forming PartnerAmerica™ (PA) --the nation’s only small business growth program.

This public-private partnership is strictly devoted to assist small and mid-sized businesses to improve cash flow, profits and sales for hundreds of cities on a national scale. The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official, non-partisan national organization with cities where population is over 30,000. Their focus continues to be the development and implementation of national urban policies which affect the development and/or growth of US cities.

In joining forces with American Management Services (AMS) to form PartnerAmerica™ and work with small businesses Jeff Bean, Managing Director for USCM remarked: “It’s really amazing to see the impact this organization (PA) is having on small businesses all over the country. Working with our nation’s mayors to assist and promote these businesses in their communities is truly a win-win situation for all.”

“Working together in these challenging times we must take the time to create opportunities such as this to reinvent ourselves, brainstorm and share ideas.” said Mayor Driscoll. Syracuse New York serves as New York’s premier business address-home. Driscoll continued: “Partner America has given me the conduit to enable me to address our businesses’ needs and create further awareness in our city. Partner America is a great, user-friendly resource that is open and responsive. This conference was a huge success! I encourage other mayors to have similar events in order to embrace their business needs and challenges.”

Louis Mosca, Executive Vice-President of AMS and guest speaker remarked: “There are 23 million small businesses nationwide with over 800 thousand opening each year. Small businesses are really the silent majority.”

The VP continued: “Partner America helps to proliferate what small business is all about and goes a long way in getting the small business and the local community working together through the mayor’s office in once again promoting and assisting these businesses.”

Conference Executive Director J. Thomas Cochran stated, "The U.S. Conference of Mayors created this program with American Management Services to equip mayors with new initiatives designed to strengthen the local economy, bring federal resources to local areas, increase the tax base, and create a vital and sustainable business community."

Partner America™ is a joint effort between the Conference and American Management, designed to provide management expertise, technical assistance, education, and government procurement capability and resource program opportunities to small and mid-sized firms in every state and

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hundreds of cities across the nation. Partner America™ is the Conference's first comprehensive public-private initiative focusing on small businesses. Cochran stressed the importance of the program as "providing a bridge for Mayors and small business with government programs, private sector expertise and capital access.

About American Management Services

American Management Services is the leading provider of complete turnaround services to small and mid-sized businesses. Founded in 1986 by George Cloutier, a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Business School, American Management has worked directly with more than 6,000 business owners across 400 industries to implement the changes necessary to achieve profitability. In the last twelve months, American Management Services completed 54 successful small business turnarounds and over the past five years, has completed more than 250 successful turnarounds. American Management Services is a founding and active member of Partner America™, a unique public/private partnership created in 2001 with the US Conference of Mayors. American Management Services has offices in Orlando and Palm Beach, FL, Boston, MA, and Washington D.C. For more information, please visit www.amserv.com.

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