



Partner  
America™



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 24, 2008

**CONTACT**

Jill Fleekop 407.563.8684  
Communications Director  
American Management Services, Inc.  
[jfleekop@amserv.com](mailto:jfleekop@amserv.com)

**PARTNER AMERICA™ AND MACON'S MAYOR ROBERT REICHERT HOST SUCCESSFUL SMALL BUSINESS CONFERENCE**

**Macon, GA – (March 24, 2008)** – Macon's small business community positively responded for area small business owners to band together by attending the *first-ever* small business conference hosted by the Honorable Robert Reichert, the Department of Economic and Community Development and *PartnerAmerica™*. *PartnerAmerica™* is a public-private partnership between the U.S. Conference of Mayors and American Management Services, Inc., dedicated solely to small business growth by maximizing profits and sales.

Close to 100 small business owners attended the event, which was held at the Cox Capitol Theatre this past week. "Open for Business" was the conference's theme. A panel discussion and a multitude of topics were discussed by local, regional and national experts. Some of these topics included, "How Georgia Fosters Entrepreneur and Small Business Development at the State, Local and Company Levels," and "SBA Programs and Resources to Start and Grow Your Business."

Macon's Mayor, the Honorable Robert Reichert commented at the beginning of the event, "Our small business community is our heart and sole. They continue to define us in all aspects of our socio-economic climate and spirit. We are totally dedicated to provide any and all resources to help you in every aspect."

The *keynote* address was delivered by George A. Cloutier, CEO of American Management Services, Inc. and Co-Chairman of *PartnerAmerica™*. Mr. Cloutier's presentation was entitled, "Do You Really Want to Make A Profit." Cloutier had this to say, "Macon's first small business conference was a resounding

-more-

success as area small business owners were exposed to many resources to tap into so they can be successful in their community.”

Cloutier is the nation’s leading small business expert and advocate, and a recent recipient of the first ever *U.S. Conference of Mayors Small Business Leadership Award* for his tireless efforts on behalf of small business nationwide. In addition, he continues to be a frequent guest commentator for Fox Business News, CNBC and other national media outlets.

### **American Management Services, Inc.**

George A. Cloutier is Co-Chairman and CEO of American Management Services and Co-Chairman of Partner America™. Cloutier is the nation’s leading small business expert, bringing more than 30 years of small business experience to his roles as Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of American Management Services, Inc. He founded the company in 1986 to offer implementation-based profit-maximization services to privately held, small and mid-sized business owners. Over the last 21 years, Cloutier has forged more than 6,000 client relationships in 400 industries, realizing over \$1 billion in savings for his clients, 40% of which are family-owned businesses. He has grown American Management Services from a one-man operation to a 120 employee company with offices on the East Coast. For more information, please contact American Management Services, Inc. at 800.743.0402 or visit their website at [www.amserv.com](http://www.amserv.com).

### **PartnerAmerica™**

PartnerAmerica™ is a unique, small business growth program developed by American Management Services, Inc. and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. Formed in 2000, the program is the nation’s first public-private small business resource initiative, providing management expertise, technical assistance and educational opportunities to small businesses across the country. Currently, Cloutier serves as Co-Chairman of Partner America™, along with Tom Cochran, CEO and Executive Director of USCM.

### **U.S. Conference of Mayors**

For over 75 years, the United States Conference of Mayors has served as the official non-partisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more, focusing on the development and implementation of national urban policies impacting the sustainable development and growth of cities across the United States. The official website for USCM is [www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org).

###