



BILL RICHARDSON
GOVERNOR

FRED MONDRAGÓN
CABINET SECRETARY

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Contact: Toni Balzano
o. 505-476-3747, c. 505-231-1488

More than 400 Participants, Suppliers and Buyers expected at the 2009 NAFTA Institute/Supplier Meet the Buyer Conference *More New Mexico Suppliers needed to attend*

Santa Teresa, New Mexico—More than four hundred participants and companies from Mexico, Canada, and the U.S. have registered to participate in the 2009 NAFTA Institute/Supplier Meet the Buyer conference, which will take place on June 11 and 12, 2009 at the Sunland Park Racetrack and Casino in Sunland Park, New Mexico.

This year's conference will feature a large number of buyers from Mexico, looking to connect with suppliers from across the state of New Mexico. There is still time for local suppliers to sign up to attend the conference and take part in the Business to Business Sessions (B2B).

The conference will begin with the B2B sessions on June 11, 2009. Patty Sefcik, Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Domestic Operations of the U.S. Department of Commerce, a high-ranking Obama Administration official, will be providing the keynote speech. She will also inaugurate the recently established Department of Commerce El Paso Export Assistance Center, as well as recognize the newly formed U.S.-Mexico Border District Export Council.

During the conference, experts from the public and private sectors of Mexico, Canada and the U.S. will be presenting on international trade topics. On June 12, various experts will give presentations covering cross-border trade topics, including Foxconn's San Jeronimo project, Union Pacific's Santa Teresa rail relocation project, and the Punta Colonet project among others.

In conjunction with the conference, organizers have scheduled business-to-business (B2B) sessions for approximately 200 participating companies, including 42 purchasing managers of maquiladoras such as Foxconn, Delphi Automotive, Bombardier, Toro, Sumitomo, ADC Telecommunications, Vishay, and Electrolux.

In addition to these major manufacturers, a wide variety of buyers/suppliers have registered for the B2B sessions in areas including: metals, logistics, arts & crafts, foods, machinery, contract manufacturing, chemicals, plastics, tool & die, consumer products, computer systems, legal services, environmental services, real estate, industrial machinery and tourism, among others.

The cost to participate in the conference is \$79, which includes all conference meals and materials. Companies that only want to participate in the B2B sessions and not the general conference will be charged a special participation fee of \$49. Special hotel rates for conference participants have been arranged with area hotels.

Space is limited in this year's conference and B2B sessions, so companies interested in participating in the conference or B2Bs are encouraged to register as soon as possible to ensure their participation. Please call the International Business Accelerator at 575-589-2200 or visit the IBA website (www.nmiba.com) for more conference details.

The International Business Accelerator, the New Mexico Economic Development's Office of Mexican Affairs, the North American Institute, the Mesilla Valley Economic Development Alliance, the City of Juarez, the New Mexico Small Business Development Network, and Western New Mexico University are the co-organizers of this conference.

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