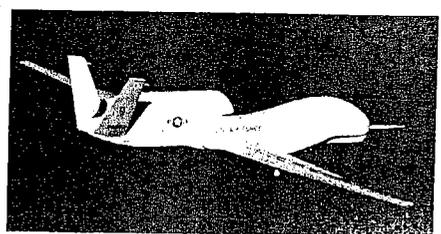
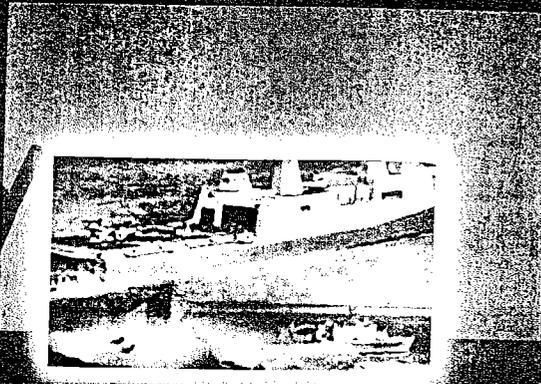
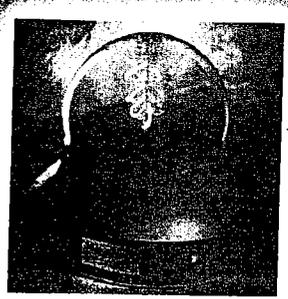
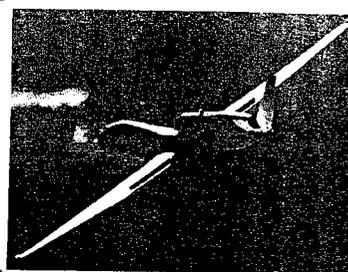


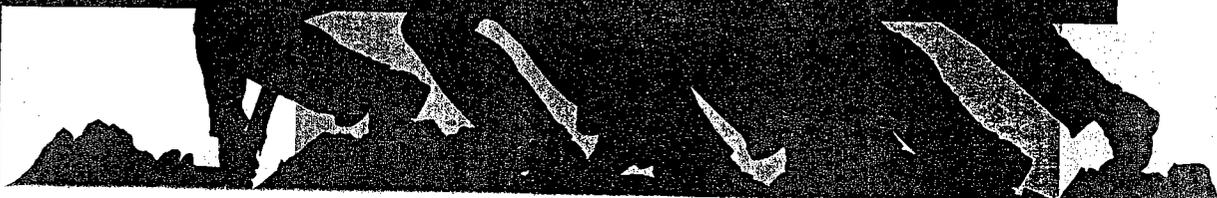
**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
2004 MENTOR-PROTÉGÉ CONFERENCE**



**MENTORS AND PROTÉGÉS:
TRANSFORMING
AMERICA TOGETHER
THROUGH INNOVATIVE
TECHNOLOGY**



**MARCH 15-17, 2004
HILTON ALEXANDRIA
MARK CENTER
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA**





ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

MAR 10 2004

Dear Conference Participants:

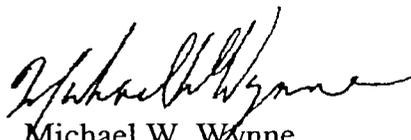
Welcome to this year's Mentor Protégé Conference. Thank you for making the Mentor-Protégé Program a truly reliable source of high quality products and services for the warfighter. It is a great time to be involved with the defense of our Nation, striving to ensure its defenders get the right equipment to do their mission.

Your exemplary participation as Mentors and Protégés is being celebrated at this conference. Small innovative suppliers are the key to strengthening the defense industrial base and broadening the array of defense suppliers. This year's conference theme is: "Transforming America Together Through Innovative Technology." I fully support the direction of the Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Small Business; specifically a Mentor-Protégé Program that will meet the challenge of our DoD transformational goals and initiatives.

This organization is committed to providing five joint functional capabilities needed by our forces to deliver operational effects: Battle Space Awareness, Command and Control, Force Application, Protection, and Focused Logistics. This conference will highlight Mentor-Protégé agreements that have contributed to that end. I applaud all of you who help meet the objectives of these five functional capabilities.

On behalf of the Secretary of Defense, thank you for all your efforts.

Sincerely,


Michael W. Wynne
Acting





HISTORY

Legislation was enacted in 1990 to establish a DoD Pilot Mentor-Protégé (MP) Program (Public Law 101-510). Defense contractors urged that a vehicle be established for the development of protégés that could become valued defense suppliers. Crafted by former Senator Sam Nunn and implemented by former Defense Secretary William Perry, the MP Program is an important and visible program in the federal government. The program assists small disadvantaged business firms, qualified organizations that employ the severely disabled, and women-owned small businesses in transitioning from a state of modest attainments to very successful contributors to the defense of our nation.

In 1995, the DoD SADBUs presented its first Nunn-Perry Awards to recognize and highlight outstanding and successful Mentor-Protégé relationships. The award is named in honor of former Senator Nunn for his vision and insight in sponsoring legislation to create and fund the DoD Mentor-Protégé Program and in honor of former Defense Secretary Perry for his commitment to the implementation of the program.

The 2004 Nunn-Perry award winners have been selected from credit and direct reimbursable agreements sponsored by the Military Departments and other Defense Agencies. The awards cover the Fiscal Year 2003 period of performance. This year's winners have excelled in their program performance by fulfilling certain criteria:

The Quantitative Criterion - Provides quantitative data to support the cost of the agreement to the DoD versus its beneficial value to the U.S. economy. This includes the impact of the agreement upon the protégé's employee base, gross revenues, and participation in DoD contracts at either the prime contracting or subcontracting level. Positive impact upon the mentor's Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) subcontracting performance is favorably considered.

The Quality of Technical Assistance Criterion - Includes the appropriateness, quality, breadth, and depth of technical assistance provided to the protégé firm. Favorable consideration is given to the relevance of the technical assistance to DoD mission requirements and the effective utilization of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Minority Institutions (MIs), Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs), and Small Business Development Centers (SBDCs).

The Results of the Protégé's Development Criterion - Includes technical capabilities realized, certifications received, business infrastructure gained, and new business and/or subcontracting opportunities realized. Favorable consideration is given to increases in DoD prime contracts and/or subcontracts as well as identification of a beneficial impact upon DoD mission requirements.



MENTOR

Science Applications
International Corporation
151 Lafayette Drive
Oak Ridge, TN 37831

Recipient:
Mr. Kurt Oschman
Senior Vice President

PROTÉGÉ

GEO Consultants, LLC
199 Kentucky Ave.
Kevil, KY 42053

Recipients:
Ms. Sharon G. Douthitt
CEO
Mr. Jeff Douthitt, P.E.
President

During the first year of their agreement, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) provided GEO Consultants, LLC (GEO) with an array of technical training and assistance in environmental monitoring and rehabilitation. Endorsed by Army, this relationship focused on the objectives of: improving GEO's Quality Assurance processes and procedures in order to become ISO 9001:2000 certified, expanding GEO's DoD environmental sector customer base, and improving GEO's business development and proposal production capabilities.

Results of this agreement have been exceptionally substantial. GEO has significantly improved Quality Assurance and environmental records management. GEO is also on track to achieve ISO 9001:2000 certification during 2004. GEO has acquired certified HUBZone status, thereby opening up potential sole source and set-aside bid opportunities. GEO has become a viable DoD contractor, competing and performing successfully, both as a HUBZone prime and as a subcontractor to SAIC on projects for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville, Savannah, Mobile, Omaha, and Louisville Districts. Since the start of the agreement, GEO's gross revenue increased by 41 percent, from \$1.7 million to \$2.4 million and has received \$317,177.00 in subcontract awards from SAIC. As the dedication and determination by both SAIC and GEO was evident in their first year's efforts and results, this agreement is headed toward continued success.