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Are You Looking to Make 2016 More "Event"-ful?

Whenever business people come together, it's a fantastic opportunity to make new contacts, catch up on new developments in a specific industry, or drill down into an existing area of expertise. If being better connected is one of your New Year's resolutions, we can help! In this newsletter, we highlight some major business events coming up in 2016—just a few examples of the kinds of meetings, conferences and workshops you can find in our

Calendars Galore, from Taxes to Science to Minority Business

While BusinessUSA's event calendar gathers business events from many federal agencies, businesses might also want to check out the calendars for the [IRS](#), the [Labor Department](#) (including [OSHA](#)), and the [Federal Trade](#)

[Commission](#).

Science and technology businesses should look for events from the [National Science Foundation](#), the [Federal Communications Commission](#), and the [National Institute of Standards and Technology](#), including their upcoming [NIST Industry Day 2016](#) on February 10th.

Minority business owners will want to follow the [U.S. Minority Business Development Agency](#) (MBDA) events, particularly their annual [National MEDWEEK](#) (Minority Enterprise Development Week) Conference.

Increasing Exporting Opportunities Abroad

Calling all exporters! Many export and trade-related events can be found on the [BusinessUSA database](#) (search for Trade or Export), but in particular we invite you to join the Export-Import Bank of the United States at its [annual conference](#) in Washington, DC on April 7th - 8th.

The conference presents a unique opportunity for companies from around the world to meet U.S. exporters. Attendees include more than 1,100 exporters and representatives of financial institutions, foreign trade partners, and government officials. At the event, participants can also meet EXIM Bank staff and obtain detailed information about the bank's export credit products and programs.

[Registration for participants](#) is now open. If you are interested in exhibiting at the conference, [submit your application](#) today.

Forecasting Future Economic Development

What does the future of economic development look like? That question and others like it will be answered at the 2016 U.S. Economic Development Administration ([EDA](#)) National Conference. This event, also happening April 7th - 8th in

Washington, D.C., will bring together hundreds of economic development professionals from the public and private sectors to discuss the top issues facing communities today such as improving competitiveness, job growth, innovation and overall quality of life. There will be many networking opportunities as well.

[Registration](#) is open now, so be sure to visit [EDA's website for conference updates](#) as the date approaches.

Celebrating Small Businesses

American small businesses create two out of every three American jobs. That's why we are joining the Small Business Administration (SBA) in their efforts to celebrate small businesses during National Small Business Week, which will be taking place this year on May 1-7th. Find a [National Small Business Week event](#) near you.

General Small Business Events: Check the [SBA calendar](#) for small business events in your area, as well as [SCORE online workshops](#) and local Small Business Development Center events ([click here](#) to find your nearest SBDC).

Government Contracting Events: For small businesses interested in selling to the federal government, look for the many vendor outreach and training events from the [General Services Administration](#) (GSA) and the [Offices of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization](#) (OSDBU) in each federal agency. Vendors can also search for small business events under the [FedBizOpps Special Notices](#).

Twitter Highlights and Digests

Here's a few of our top tweets from the past week:

1. Looking for #data to help you start or grow a #biz? Check out @uscensusbureau's #Biz Builder: [\[Tweet\]](#)
2. Check out @uscensusbureau's #infographic on the #mining sector #MeasuringAmerica #EconCensus: [\[Tweet\]](#)
3. Did you miss the #PAGE Ambassadors on @ABCSharkTank? Catch the clip: [\[Tweet\]](#)
4. #Hawaii was the only state in '12 where the majority (51.5%) of firms were Asian-owned. CA ranked 2nd w/ 17%: [\[Tweet\]](#)

Interested in getting all of our BusinessUSA business advice and news from our Twitter stream in one, easy-to-read email? Sign up for [the BusinessUSA Twitter digest here](#).

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