



News Release

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New SBA Web Portal *MY BIZ for Women* Offers Women Entrepreneurs New Online Tool for Business Start-Up

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration today announced the launch of *MY BIZ for Women*, a new online tool designed to provide comprehensive business information and assistance to women entrepreneurs.

MY BIZ for Women is designed to be the first step for all women business owners, providing one-stop access to information for women entrepreneurs highlighting the best resources the government has to offer. The Web portal provides information on starting and growing a small business, gaining access to capital and contracting opportunities and links to other government agencies and SBA resource partners offering business counseling, a state-by-state listing of SBA's Women's Business Centers and other resource information. The *MY BIZ for Women* Web site can be found at <http://www.SBA.gov/women>.

"Women-owned small businesses in the United States are rapidly growing – they are starting businesses at twice the rate of all businesses," said SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto. "The introduction of *MY BIZ for Women* is critically important to help new women entrepreneurs start and grow businesses in this country. The SBA is committed to helping women entrepreneurs obtain access to information and opportunities that will allow them to break down economic development barriers, which will allow them to start and grow their small business."

The launch of *MY BIZ for Women* was announced today at a White House event honoring the new Chair of the National Women's Business Council (NWBC) Tami Longaberger. Longaberger, the CEO of The Longaberger Company in Newark, Ohio, was appointed by President Bush to the post in May 2005.

MY BIZ for Women will provide easy online access to the latest information and business resources, serving as a single point of entry for women entrepreneurs to government resources. Highlights of the new Web portal feature up-to-date information on the issues of women in business, including Women's Business Data & Research; Inspiring Success Stories; Business Tips and Upcoming Events.

Women will be able to gain valuable insights into the world of entrepreneurship from monthly guest columnists who will share their wisdom and experience from unique perspectives. They can also subscribe to *The Women's Perspective*, a free SBA newsletter for women in business.

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