



# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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## ***SBA RECOGNIZES KEY PLAYERS IN THE CONTRACTING ARENA DURING NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK 2001***

**WASHINGTON** – Two firms, one from California and another from Florida were named as National small business prime contractor and National subcontractor of the year today in a ceremony marking the final major awards event of the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) National Small Business Week 2001 celebration.

The two companies, Alpha Data Corporation, of Fort Walton Beach, Fla, and ARES Corporation of Burlingame, Cal., joined an elite group of small business owners and government contracting officials nationwide who were honored today for their commitment to providing contracting and subcontracting opportunities to small, women-owned businesses and small disadvantaged businesses.

A number of other small businesses, large prime contractors and government agencies were selected for individual awards during the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Joint Industry/SBA Procurement conference, which is being held in conjunction with National Small Business Week.

The SBA has selected the following small businesses, large prime contractors and government agencies to receive the: *Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year Award*, *Small Business Subcontractor of the Year Award*, *Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Excellence*, the *Regional Prime/Subcontractors of the Year Award* and the *Frances Perkins Vanguard Award* for their outstanding accomplishments in the contracting arena.

### ***Small Business Prime Contractor of the Year Award***

**Vercell Vance**  
**President**  
**Alpha Data Corporation**  
**Fort Walton Beach, Fla**

Alpha Data Corporation specializes in information technology solutions, engineering services and high performance computing and communications, also known as supercomputing. Other areas of expertise include: software and database engineering and technical assistance, modeling and simulation, research and development, logistics and facility support, installation and maintenance of hardware and software systems, network and communications/telecommunications design and Web design.

**01-26 / Page Two**

Alpha Data Corporation services the Eglin Air Force Base, Army Core of Engineers, the Kennedy Space Center and others. It subcontracts to large prime contractors such as Computer Science Corporation, Northrop Grumman-Logicon and Adroit Systems, Inc. For the past two years, Alpha Data has averaged revenues of approximately \$10 million. In both 1999 and 2000, Alpha Data Corporation ranked 313<sup>th</sup> and 263<sup>rd</sup> out of 500 companies in Inc. Magazine for being one of the fastest growing privately owned companies in America. This year, Alpha Data was recognized in the top 50 percent of Florida's fastest growing businesses, ranking 46<sup>th</sup> out of 100 statewide. The company attributes its continued growth and success to a corporate commitment to "deliver the highest quality products and services, on-time and within budget and succeeding where others fail."

**Small Business Subcontractor of the Year Award**

**Richard Stuart**  
**President**  
**ARES Corporation**  
**Burlingame, Cal**

In 1992, Dr. Richard J. Stuart, Mr. Larry Shipley and Dr. Amitava Ghose founded ARES Corporation in San Francisco, Cal to provide engineering, project management and risk assessment on complex equipment, processes, and projects. ARES currently services the Department of Energy, Department of Defense and the Aerospace community. From the outset, ARES' business goal has been to provide an exceptional quality of services and products to its clients, on time, and within budget. This has led to steady growth in its highly qualified and dedicated staff and consistently high client satisfaction, evidenced by its 43 percent growth rate, 90 percent repeat business, and numerous awards and recognition. The United Space Alliance, the prime contractor supporting all NASA Space Shuttle launch activities, selected ARES from 6,500 small businesses as the 1999 Small Business Subcontractor of the Year.

**Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Excellence**

This award is presented to large business prime contractors that have excelled at using small businesses as suppliers and subcontractors. The award honors companies in five categories, including construction, manufacturing, research and development, service and utilities. The ***Dwight D. Eisenhower Award for Excellence*** recipients are:

Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation  
Morris Plains, NJ

Construction category

The Boeing Company  
Seattle, WA

Manufacturing category

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) Research & Development category  
San Diego, CA

CH2MHill  
Greenwood Village, CO

Service category

**-more-**

**01-26 / Page Three**

**Frances Perkins Vanguard Award**

The *Frances Perkins Vanguard Award* honors government agencies, government officials and corporations in the private sector that use women-owned small businesses as prime contractors, subcontractors and suppliers. This year's recipients for the above-mentioned award are:

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)  
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer  
Washington, DC

Kevin Boshears  
Director for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization  
Department of Treasury  
Washington, DC

Earth Tech, Inc.  
Long Beach, CA

Cynthia Schneeberger  
Manager of Supplier Relations and  
Supply Chain Management for  
Sandia National Laboratories  
Albuquerque, NM

A list of all winners and registration information is available at  
<http://smallbusinesssuccess.sba.gov/>.

*For more information about all of SBA's programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U-ASK SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA's extensive Web site at [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov).*

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