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Virginia Economic Bridge, Inc.

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***Virginia Economic Bridge, Inc. to hold recruitment meetings in Region 2000 area***

**RADFORD, Va., April 26, 2007** – Virginia Economic Bridge, Inc. will hold recruitment meetings for its third *Virginia's Linked Workforce Showcase: Region 2000* beginning in May.

Region 2000 Executive Director Lee Cobb and Project Manager Roger Beeker have endorsed VEB's Region 2000 Showcase, which will occur January 2008. "Region 2000 Economic Development Council continues to support the Region 2000 Showcase event as a valuable opportunity to create and develop new markets for Region 2000 businesses."

The Region 2000 Showcase services companies from the Region 2000 ([www.Region2000.org](http://www.Region2000.org)) area – businesses and individuals within a 2,000 square mile area affiliated with each other as an economic development organization. Business and civic leaders, as well as government officials and educators from four counties, two cities and one town work together to create a supportive environment for businesses.

VEB invites all Region 2000 businesses to attend one of two informational meetings, the last occurring in June. Businesses that are ready to move their companies to the next level are encouraged to attend. Dates, times and locations are as follows:

- Thursday, May 24 – Wingate Inn, 3777 Candler's Mountain Road, Lynchburg, VA
- Tuesday, June 19 – Wingate Inn, 3777 Candler's Mountain Road, Lynchburg, VA

Region 2000 businesses selected will net the VEB's expertise in marketing and small business development with the end result being presentations and one-on-one conversations with large, prime contractors and second-tier suppliers at the January 2008 Showcase.

Region 2000 company representatives that participated in past Region 2000 Showcases had this to say about the event:

- “This is a great forum for bringing companies together. I never would have gotten to these companies any other way.” – Dave Fitzgerald, president of BAC of Virginia.
- “This was a first class event, and I made some great contacts with some of the firms that attended.” – Lee White, TSI Technology Supply Chain Solutions
- “I think that the opportunities and doors that opened here today have been astronomical, but they won’t stay open for long. We gave the larger companies some insight into what we have to offer, and that we have the technology and means to do great things...There’s nothing like building that personal relationship and being able to put a name or an e-mail with a person. This is making business personal, and you can’t take that personal opportunity away.” – Sharon Brown, owner of Brown Machine Works.

Informational meetings are free, and open to any company interested in hearing more about the services provided to companies that sign up for the Region 2000 Showcase. There are only 10 spaces available for qualified Region 2000 companies. For additional event details, past Region 2000 participants and meeting registration, visit [www.LinkedWorkforceShowcase.org](http://www.LinkedWorkforceShowcase.org).

Virginia’s Linked Workforce Showcase program, an initiative of Virginia Economic Bridge, Inc., brings together representatives from diverse companies for face-to-face meetings to foster strategic business alliances. Past events included a March Modeling & Simulation Showcase, a November 2006 Architecture & Engineering Showcase and Environmental Services Showcase and a July 2006 Homeland Security Showcase.

Virginia Economic Bridge, Inc. ([www.VirginiaEconomicBridge.org](http://www.VirginiaEconomicBridge.org)) is a non-profit organization focused on creating an environment for economic growth in today's technologically advanced society. VEB, Inc.’s mission is to promote the economic vitality and external competitiveness of the Commonwealth through business, industry and educational partnerships between Southwestern Virginia, Northern Virginia and other areas of the Commonwealth.

All 2007 Showcases are supported by Virginia’s Linked Workforce Showcase Pinnacle Sponsor Lockheed Martin Corporation.

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