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S.W. Va. group builds bridge to N. Va. contractors

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A nonprofit group is building a bridge between tech companies in Southwest Virginia and their peers in Northern Virginia.

Radford-based [Virginia Economic Bridge](#) is hosting a half-day event Sept. 14 in McLean to give 10 small businesses from the southwestern part of the state a chance to meet 20 potential partners in Northern Virginia. The event will follow a Northern Virginia Technology Council business-to-government event at the McLean Hilton.

Ten Southwest Virginia engineering and technology companies with expertise related to homeland security will make seven-minute presentations. The presenters have been paired with at least six Northern Virginia government contractors for round-table discussions on subcontracting and teaming opportunities.

"It's almost like speed-dating," says Carl Mitchell, CEO of Virginia Economic Bridge.

Virginia Economic Bridge has commitments from Lockheed Martin, Computer Sciences Corp., SRA International and Indus to attend, and it has been contacted about the event by CACI, CGI-AMS, Accenture and Mitre.

Participants will receive information from each of the 30 companies, and presentations from the Southwest Virginia companies will be available online after the event.

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