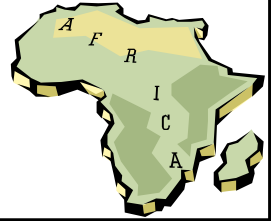




The ADISN Newsletter

A Monthly Newsletter for African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network
(ADISN) Clients



Published by Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. (DRS)

December 2008



Greetings and welcome to the ADISN Newsletter. As our country closes out a very challenging and historic year in 2008, I see changes on the horizon. A new president, a new year and new business opportunities for U.S. companies wanting to do international trade in Africa.

The staff at DRS looks forward to assisting our valued ADISN clients in better positioning their companies in the 21st century for promoting commerce and trade on the African continent. DRS anticipates that some of the information provided in our newsletter will add value to your current or future global business strategies. As DRS continues to develop professional relationships in Africa and the Diaspora, we will use the ADISN Newsletter and ADISN Business Opportunities Alerts notices to inform our network clients. We will also be publishing a client/partner directory so that you will have the tools to make contacts on your own.

Starting in 2009, DRS has plans to host various events for our ADISN clients, including a global business conference, breakfast seminars and orientation visits to Africa. All of these activities will be done in a effort to encourage the exchange of information, business to business exchanges and development of professional and social relationships with African business counterparts. Thank you again for joining our network and embracing the "new" business frontier, AFRICA!

Eric A. Sheppard
President

2008 FALL TRADE MISSION TO THE GAMBIA, WEST AFRICA

From November 16-21, 2008, Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. (DRS) was scheduled to host its first international trade mission to the country of The Gambia, located in West Africa. Unfortunately due to the economic downturn in the United States (U.S.), DRS did not have the physical participation of companies going with DRS president, Eric Sheppard. However, DRS was able to represent four ADISN clients (AMERICAN SYSTEMS, Sabrosa Foods, Inc., Academic Tutorial Outreach Services, Inc. and Inner Circle Enterprises). The industry sectors for the ADISN clients include Telecommunications & Technologies, Food & Drink Processing, Educational Services and Transportation (Automotive Sales).

The Gambia has long standing cultural and historical ties with the U.S., dating back to transatlantic slave trade days when African slaves were transported to America for labor purposes. The Gambia was also made famous through the 1970's book and movie "Roots." written by the late author Alex Haley. However, business ties have not have such a long relationships.

DRS hopes to change this through its ADISN program and by working with the Gambia Investment Promotion and Free Zones Agency (GIFPZA). GIFPZA is the national agency in charge of promoting The Gambia as an ideal investment destination. It is also a statutory body established through an Act of Parliament under the legal framework of The Gambia Investment Promotion Act, 2001 and The Gambia Free Zones Act, 2001.

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Save the Dates.....

January 12-13, 2009

Trade Financing Solutions for Exporters and Lenders

Presenter: Export-Import (EXIM) Bank
Washington, DC
\$499 (Exporters)
\$99 (Small Exporter)
www.exim.gov/seminars/index.cfm

January 31, 2009

Doing Business in Africa Breakfast Seminar

Embassy Suites Atlanta Airport
Atlanta, GA
\$49 - ADISN/ \$69 - Non ADISN
9-11am (Registration at 8:30am)
Presenter: DRS
www.diversityrestoration.com

April 16-17, 2009

Ex-Im Bank Annual Conference

Omni Shoreham Hotel
More information to be announced at
<http://www.exim.gov/news/events.cfm>



Who Should Join ADISN????

If you are in the following industry sectors, the ADISN trade group is for you:

Agriculture
Aquaculture/Fisheries
Construction
Customhouse Brokers
Energy/Mining
Environmental Management
Entertainment/Media
Educational Sectors
Financial Sectors
Freight Forwarders/Shippers
Food & Drink Processing
Healthcare/Medical Supplies
Hospitality/Tourism/Travel
Information Technology
International Law
Light Manufacturing/Assembly
Real Estate Investment
Telecommunications
Transportation (Auto)

DID YOU KNOW????

There are at least 20 active financial stock exchanges on the African continent. About 20 years ago there were only 5 in sub-Saharan countries and 3 in North Africa.

Source: African Finance for the 21st Century High-Level Seminar, March 4-5, 2008, Tunis, Tunisia (Sponsored by the IMF Institute & the Joint Africa Institute)

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WELCOME NEW ADISN CLIENTS

Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. welcomes the following network clients

Individuals

- Henry Watkins (Hampton, VA)
Industry - Construction, Waste Disposal
- Archi Trapp (Hampton, VA)
Industry - Information Technology
- Dr. Valeria King (Chesapeake, VA)
Industry - Healthcare
- Frederick C. Hines, Sr. (Laytonsville, MD)
Industry - Information Technology
- Lewis Dawley (Hampton, VA)
Industry - Hospitality & Tourism
- Elbert Robinson (Columbia, MD)
Industry - Construction
- Gerald Honeyblue (Raleigh, NC)
Industry - Advertisement (Promotional Items)
- Maureen Aubee (Liverpool, UK)

Corporate

- Sabrosa Foods, Inc. (Norfolk, VA)
Industry - Food & Drink Processing, Agriculture, Light Manufacturing
- AMERICAN SYSTEMS (Chantilly, VA)
Industry - Telecommunications & Technologies
- Academic Tutorial Outreach Services (Hampton, VA)
Industry - Educational Services
- The Law Office of Karen Bland, P.C. (Newport News, VA)
Industry - Legal Services
- Inner Circle Enterprises (Hampton, VA)
Industry - Digital Advertisement, Transportation
- Construction Development Services, Inc. (Norfolk, VA)
Industry - Construction
- ATAV Corp./MJ Productions (Villa Rica, GA)
Industry - Electronics, Computers, Video Productions

WELCOME STRATEGIC PARTNERS (AFRICA AND US)

- EcoBank (Togo, West Africa)
- American Embassy, Banjul The Gambia
- Alkamba Travel & Tours (Banjul, The Gambia)
- Gambia Investment Promotion & Free Zones Agency (The Gambia)
- Embassy of The Gambia (Washington, DC)
- Embassy of Cape Verde (Washington, DC)
- Embassy of Malawi (Washington, DC)
- Federation of Congolese Abroad - United States
- SAIC (Suffolk, VA)



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Here is a sample of the types of African business opportunities that are shared with ADISN clients through our ADISN BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY ALERTS. The opportunities listed here are not all-inclusive of all information received by DRS. Updates will be sent as received by DRS.



Country	Project Amount	Project Description
Burkina Faso	\$29.4 Million	Training of farmers
Cote D' Ivoire	\$76 Million	Biofuel from maize
Ghana	\$110 Million	Cultivation of sweet sorghum & biomass waste for renewable energy cogeneration
Mali	\$1.82 Million	Plantation and establishment of oil factory
Senegal	\$29.55 Million	Rehabilitation of the boilers
Togo/Benin	\$2.5 Million	Project to adapt the Lome gas turbine to use natural gas



NEWS YOU CAN USE - CURRENT BUSINESS NEWS RELATED TO AFRICA

Delta Airlines Launching New Africa Flights from U.S. (Atlanta Journal and Constitution)

[Delta Air Lines](#) plans to launch seven new routes from Atlanta to Africa next summer as part of a broader international route network. Atlanta-based Delta also plans to add a second daily flight from Atlanta to Tokyo's Narita Airport effective May 4. For that flight, it plans to use the Boeing 747-400 from merger partner [Northwest Airlines](#). It is Delta's first announced 747 flight out of Atlanta since the merger closed last month. (http://www.ajc.com/business/content/business/delta/stories/2008/11/12/delta_routes_africa.html)

AfDB Approves U.S.\$ 64 Million for Three Major Road Projects in Ghana(AllAfrica.com)

The African Development Bank (AfDB) Group has approved supplementary loans of 43.10 million Units of Account (UA*), about US\$ 64.13 million, to help finance the rehabilitation and upgrading of three major highways in Ghana...On completion, the projects are expected to boost trade between Ghana and other countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). (<http://allafrica.com/stories/200812170263.html>)

Starbucks Coffee Invests in Burundi (AllAfrica.com)

Rosa Whitaker, President and CEO of The Whitaker Group (TWG), has praised the Starbucks Coffee Company for including coffee from Burundi's Kayanza region on the featured menu in stores nationally. "This is a testament to Burundi's hard work in bringing peace to their country and to Starbucks' commitment to African development," said Ms. Whitaker, who worked with the Embassy of Burundi to facilitate a Starbucks team visit to Burundi in 2007. (<http://allafrica.com/stories/200812120001.html>)

FAME Africa Launched in The Gambia (The Observer - Gambia)

Fame Africa is a product of Lexicon Communications, a renowned marketing communications outfit under the leader of Moses Nwanze. It is being organised in collaboration with the Actors Guild of Nigeria, Gomis Promotions and InTouch Company Ltd. The launch in The Gambia is the first ever. The Gambia has been chosen as the venue to host FAME Africa based on the strong conviction that the country has all the potentials for development and promotion of movie and entertainment industry. (<http://observer.gm/africa/article/fame-africa-launched>)

Coca-Cola CEO Meets with Gambian President Jammeh (The Observer - Gambia)

The chairman and CEO of the Coca Cola Company, USA, E Neville Isdell, accompanied by a six member delegation including officials of the Gambega Company, Gambia Ltd, yesterday paid a courtesy call on President Alhaji Dr Yahya Jammeh, at State House in Banjul. (<http://observer.gm/africa/gambia/banjul/article/2008/9/18/coca-cola-ceo-meets-jammeh>)



Meet The Client

Karen L. Bland, Esq.

The Law Office of Karen Bland, P.C.



Karen L. Bland is an international trade attorney with fifteen years experience advising private and public sector clients on global trade and business matters.

Prior to starting her own law practice, Karen was the Vice President, International Affairs and Trade Counsel for the Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. (SPI), a national trade association representing the U.S. plastics industry located in Washington, DC.

Passionate about helping small and medium-sized businesses expand into global markets, in 2008, Karen opened her law office in Newport News, Virginia. She leverages her expertise in international trade and business to help business owners identify viable overseas markets for their goods/services, understand and comply with U.S. import and export compliance rules, protect their intellectual property rights, and negotiate contracts with foreign distributors.

She is active in the Hampton Roads trade and business community as the President of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Organization of Women in International Trade, where she also serves as a member of the OWIT International Board of Directors.

To reach Karen, email her at kbland@blandlaw.net.

Meet The Strategic Partner

The Gambia



- Full name: Republic of The Gambia
- Population: 1.7 million (UN, 2007)
- Capital: Banjul
- Independence: February 18, 1965 (UK)
- President: H.E. Alhaji Dr. Yahya Jammeh
- Area: 11,295 sq km (4,361 sq miles)
- Major languages: English, indigenous languages
- Major religions: Islam, Christianity
- Life expectancy: 59 years (men), 60 years (women) (UN)
- Monetary unit: 27 dalasi = 1 US dollar
- Main exports: Peanuts and peanut products, fish, cotton lint, palm kernels
- GNI per capita: US \$320 (World Bank, 2007)
- Internet domain: .gm
- International dialing code: +220
- Made famous in Alex Haley's "Roots" movie & book

For more information on The Gambia, visit www.statehouse.gm or www.visitthegambia.gm

Meet The Client / Meet The Partner will be a regular feature in this newsletter. DRS will highlight an ADISN client and a strategic business partner so our readers can learn more and start to network and form business relationships to help with international or domestic trade and commerce ventures. We will also highlight an African country in each newsletter to help our clients learn more about the countries that make up the continent of Africa.

Join Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. for the 2009 ADISN Business Conference



Date: June 2009

Place: Hampton, Virginia (USA)

(Tentative location - Hampton Roads Convention Center)

ADISN clients and invited guests will have the opportunity to meet and develop one-on-one business relationships with our invited African business partners. More information will be provided in our January ADISN Newsletter. If you are not an ADISN client and would like to receive information on the conference, please call Lisa Sheppard at (757) 238-7790 email lsheppard@diversityrestoration.com.



African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network (ADISN) Participation Form

DRS invites you to join our African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network (ADISN), an exclusive global trade networking group focused on doing business in Africa.

DRS reserves the right to restrict participation in the ADISN program. ADISN participation will start the day you are approved. Your renewal will be based on your anniversary date (12 months from your inclusion date).

Primary Contact: _____
 Company Name: _____ Number of Employees: _____
 Mailing Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____
 Phone #: _____ Fax: _____ Mobile: _____
 Email Address: _____ Website: _____

Industry Sector (s): Primary: _____ Secondary _____
 Do you currently participate in international trade or commerce? Yes ____ No ____
 If yes, what countries: _____

Type of Participation (please check one):

_____ **Individual Participant (\$50 per year)** – Name, email and phone# and industry sector (s) listed
(For those wishing to join as an individual international trade professional or Individuals without a formal business structure)

_____ **Corporate Participant** - Company name, primary contact, phone#, email, web site and industry sector (s) listed
 _____ Annual Revenue under \$100,000 (**US\$100 per year**) (2 employees)
 _____ Annual Revenue \$100,000 - \$499,999 (**US\$250 per year**) (4 employees)
 _____ Annual Revenue \$500,000 - \$999,999 (**US\$500 per year**) (6 employees)
 _____ Annual Revenue \$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999 (**US\$1,000 per year**) (8 employees)
 _____ Annual Revenue \$5,000,000 or more (**US\$2,500 per year**) (10 employees)
(Please list employees, titles, email addresses and contact phone #s on a separate sheet of paper and send with form)

Type of Payment: If paying by PAY PAL, enter confirm # and fax form to 757-238-3737 _____

Check/M.O. MasterCard
 VISA American Express Card Number _____ Exp Date _____

Name on Card _____ Cardholder Signature _____ Security Code _____

Signature (Required for all participants) _____ Date: _____

Return form and payment to: Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc.,
 Attention: ADISN Program
 P.O. Box 532
 Carrollton, VA 23314

Disclaimer: By signing the ADISN participation form, the ADISN client acknowledges and accepts all terms outlined in the ADISN Participation Form. DRS has the sole right to accept or reject any request for participation in its network. The ADISN client further understands that neither DRS nor any DRS representatives imply or guarantee the outcome of any projects that may result from contacts, projects or formal/informal agreements that result from contacts made within the ADISN program. It is the sole responsibility of ADISN clients to complete a due diligence on any prospective customer before entering into any business agree that may arise from contacts with the ADISN program, and the client agrees to hold DRS harmless from any legal responsibility that may arise.

For office use only: Date received _____ Approved or Denied (circle) Indiv or Comp _____ Number of Approved EEs _____ Start Date _____ Renewal Date _____ Login Password _____ Date Approval Ltr Sent _____ Approvers Initials _____
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The ADISN Newsletter

Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc.
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We're On the Web!
www.diversityrestoration.com

Be A Part of History...Be A Part of Restoration Center (Africa)

www.wallofreturn.org



Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. PRESENTS ...

“Doing Business In Africa”

**An African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network (ADISN)
Breakfast Seminar**

Saturday, January 31, 2008

**Embassy Suites Atlanta Airport Hotel
4700 Southport Road
Atlanta, GA 30337**

**\$49 ADISN Clients
\$69 Non-ADISN Clients***

Registration/Breakfast: 8:30am
Seminar: 9am-11am / Networking: 11am-12pm

For more information, call Lisa Sheppard at
(757) 238-7790

**Register before
January 5th and
Pay the ADISN client
rate of \$49!**