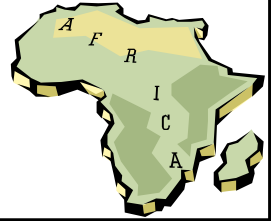




The ADISN Newsletter

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



Published by Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. (DRS)

February 2009



Eric A. Sheppard
President

THE ECONOMIC MIDDLE PASSAGE

Dear ADISN Clients:

The Trans Atlantic Slave Trade is rarely a part of conversation today when discussing the strategies surrounding international trade operations or global commerce. Although it is infused in the history of America, the lessons learned in this horrific experience for many African American ancestors have passed down to it's current day descendants. Is there a lesson from that history of trade between Africa and America starting 400 years ago which can be utilized for good? Our ancestors were unwilling participants in the trade that brought them here. Their contributions as enslaved people in America provided the labor to produce tobacco, cotton, tea, and a host of other commodities that supported trade with Europe and other Nations. The bottom line is international trade provided the foundation for developing America and African Americans were essential in America's development.

Trade with Africa today is an option we as Americans need to pursue again. This time America has the opportunity to "make it right" and African Americans have an opportunity to "get it right". America's vast resources and wealth can support the necessary planning and financing associated with opening the doors of trade with Africa and assisting the long overdue reconciliation and reconnection of African Americans to their land of heritage. African Americans must take a leadership role in developing the business relationships with African countries to increase the probability of mutually beneficial economic strategies for success. Our collective responsibilities in a global market that has unique commerce and cultural ties to West Africa should not be marginalized or ignored. We have a responsibility to cultivate the undeniable relationships between America and Africa for future generations and besides, it makes good business sense.

American products and services are in demand throughout many African countries and our various businesses in America should explore ways to combine resources and expertise fulfills those demands. About three years ago I was in The Gambia, West Africa during their bi-annual Roots Festival. It was then I became enlightened with the abundance of business opportunities available for American businesses. Most of the products and services used in The Gambia were imported there from other countries. The countries of China and India, to name a few, have invested their time and resources to develop business relationships in Africa. It is past time African Americans restored relationships in Africa and share business expertise in the Motherland's emerging and developed African countries.

At Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc., we are positioning our clients of all sizes to develop the business relationships for business opportunities. We have developed the African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network (ADISN) program to bring the Trans Atlantic

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Save the Dates.....

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>

June 17-18, 2009

2009 Africa Business Conference

Norfolk Waterside Marriott
Norfolk, Virginia
ADISN \$199 Early /\$299 Regular
General \$299 Early/\$399 Regular
Host: Diversity Restoration Solutions
www.diversityrestoration.com

November 2009

Africa Orientation Visit

Location: The Gambia, West Africa
ADISN Clients and their guests only
Cost: TBD. For more information contact Eric Sheppard at DRS.



Who Should Join ADISN????

If you are associated with one of the following industry sectors, the ADISN trade network program 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

DID YOU KNOW????

Africa is the 2nd largest continent in the world and has a population exceeding over 900 million people. There are 53 member countries that are part of the African Union (AU). The AU is an organization that is comprised of African Heads of State and Governments that work together to make Africa a player in the global economy while addressing multifaceted social, economic and political problems facing its member countries.

Source: www.africa-union.org

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WELCOME NEW ADISN CLIENTS

Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. welcomes the following network clients

Individual

- George K. McGhee (Malabo, Equatorial Guinea)
Industry - Energy (Natural Gas)
- Michael Wright (Matteson, Illinois)
Industry - Transportation (Automobiles and Auto Parts)

WELCOME ADISN STRATEGIC PARTNERS (AFRICA & U.S.)

ADISN strategic partners are business entities with common interests and potential opportunities related to Africa trade and commerce

- Embassy of the Republic of Ghana (Washington, DC)
- Virginia Port Authority (Norfolk, Virginia)
- Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance (Norfolk, Virginia)



BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Due to widespread dissemination of this newsletter, opportunities for ADISN clients will now be sent under a separate BUSINESS ALERT emails. If you would like to learn more about any of the above projects for your company, please call Eric Sheppard at (757) 238-7790 or email him at esheppard@diversityrestoration.com.

NEWS YOU CAN USE - CURRENT BUSINESS NEWS RELATED TO AFRICA



Tunisia: Microsoft Launches Bizspark (AfricaNews.com)
Microsoft has introduced an initiative to provide selected services at low cost on the African continent. The initiative called “Bizspark” was launched in Tunisia last week.
the President. [Read more](#)

Ghana: Government to Partner with Auto Manufacturers to Set Up Assembly Plant

 (AllAfrica.com)

The government is collaborating with Modern Auto Services Limited and Silver Star Auto Limited to partner vehicle manufacturers in Asia to establish an assemble plant to assemble wide range of vehicles in the country. This would give real meaning and demonstrate a genuine transfer of technology in Ghana, to further strengthen the south-south co-operation. [Read more](#)



Meet The Client

SPOTLIGHT ON AMERICAN SYSTEMS CORPORATION

Founded in 1975, **AMERICAN SYSTEMS Corporation** possesses a broad range of functional expertise relevant to the challenges and opportunities presented on the African continent. We are one of the largest employee-owned companies in the United States, with 2008 revenues of about \$205 million. Based in Chantilly, Virginia, we provide broad-based consulting services, systems engineering, logistics, construction design and installation, military training, maritime support, equipment procurement and fielding, surveillance and reconnaissance, program and project management, and general administrative support worldwide. Our 1,400 employee-owners are committed to delivering the highest quality solutions to each and every government and commercial customer.

We have been a contractor of choice by the Department of State (DOS) for almost 25 years. This history proves our capability to offer you a reliable, competent partner who can meet your program requirements, and assures you a provider that not only understands Africa, but one with a stellar reputation for integrity and ethical conduct earned in 25 years of worldwide service delivered on time and on budget.

In 2004, we were nominated for DOS's Small Business Contractor of the Year Award (we are no longer a small business), and in 2006 we were presented with a Sustained Superior Excellence Award. In 2007, **AMERICAN SYSTEMS** was named Government Contractor of the Year at the Greater Washington (DC) Government Contractor Awards. We won that award because of our people, and it is our people and our management structure that consistently exceed customer requirements and expectations.

Underlying our commitment to excellence in Africa we have formed a robust, innovative multi-disciplined team to engage across a spectrum of capability areas. Our focus ranges from work with national and regional organizations to better prevent, manage, and resolve conflict and to support peacekeeping and peace building operations; provide training and logistics support to host nations; and develop, implement, and manage communications networks. Our experience performing a wide range of diverse projects throughout the African continent demonstrates our commitment to be there and to stay there, and our proven robust programmatic, financial, and administrative processes ensure that we can competently and timely deliver the skills and numbers of fully vetted resources required by prospective customers. We have a strong understanding of the worldwide operational requirements of multiple tasking, and understand the complexity of the current international environment. We also provide specialized telecommunications and technical security services and support to US Embassy compounds overseas.

Our Joint International Concepts (JIC) Directorate is located in Dumfries, Virginia. We maintain a teaming database of pre-qualified intelligence analysis, linguist, information technology, training, and construction services companies across the world. Our subcontractors are tightly and seamlessly integrated into our team. Together we bring directly relevant experience and core capabilities that span multiple program areas. **AMERICAN SYSTEMS** and our teammates are mid and small sized companies giving us unique advantages – flexibility and attention to detail – the chance to work together with our clients to tackle Africa's most pressing challenges, while being nimble enough to provide truly innovative solutions, superior management, and continuous staffing. With our proven expeditionary mindset, we leverage years of experience in Africa to bring a fresh approach. The strength of our capabilities will directly translate to a new partnership with your organization that will bring added value and significant capability to your portfolio.

For additional info on **AMERICAN SYSTEMS**, please contact Jason Frye at Jason.Frye@AmericanSystems.com or telephone at (703) 968-5345.

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.

Meet The Strategic Partner

Ghana



- **Full name:** Republic of Ghana
- **Population:** 23.9 million (UN, 2008)
- **Capital:** Accra
- **Independence:** March 6, 1957 (United Kingdom)
- **President:** His Excellency John Atta MILLS
- **Area:** 238,533 sq km (92,098 sq miles)
- **Major languages:** English, African languages including Akan, Ewe
- **Major religions:** Christianity, indigenous beliefs, Islam
- **Life expectancy:** 60 years (men), 60 years (women) (UN)
- **Monetary unit:** Cedi
- **Main exports:** Gold, cocoa, timber, tuna, bauxite, aluminum, manganese ore, diamonds
- **GNI per capita:** US \$590 (World Bank, 2007)
- **Internet domain:** .gh
- **International dialing code:** +233

The Economic Middle Passage *(Continued from page 1)*

business communities together. Sixteen industry sectors ranging from Agriculture, Construction, Information Technology, and Energy will allow our clients and business associates to focus on industry specific opportunities and issues. In addition, participation in ADISN will provide information on exporting to Africa and other countries through our seminars, conferences and orientation visits.

One of my goals is to share the capabilities of the Virginia Ports throughout the community so that it becomes our network's port of choice when shipping products to the African continent. We also want our African counterparts to visit Hampton Roads to become familiar with its logistical capabilities and historical treasures.

For more information on the African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network (ADISN) and our upcoming Africa Business Conference in June, please visit the website www.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 network 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 approval. Your renewal will be based on your anniversary date (12 months from your inclusion date).

Primary Contact: _____
 Company or Organization 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)**
(This category is for those wishing to join as an individual international trade professional or individuals without a formal business structure)

_____ **Corporate Participant**
(Please list employees, titles, email addresses and contact phone numbers on a separate sheet of paper and send with form)

- _____ Annual Revenue under \$100,000 (**US\$100 per year**) (up to 2 employees)
- _____ Annual Revenue \$100,000 - \$499,999 (**US\$250 per year**) (up to 4 employees)
- _____ Annual Revenue \$500,000 - \$999,999 (**US\$500 year**) (up to 6 employees)
- _____ Annual Revenue \$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999 (**US\$1,000 per year**) (up to 8 employees)
- _____ Annual Revenue \$5,000,000 or more (**US\$2,500 per year**) (up to 10 employees)

_____ **Domestic and Foreign Government Entities (\$500 per year)** (up to 6 employees)
(This category is for government agencies, embassies or official non-governmental organizations (NGO))

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 _____ AVS 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.
P.O. Box 532
Carrollton, VA 23314



Diversity Restoration Solutions, Inc. PRESENTS ...

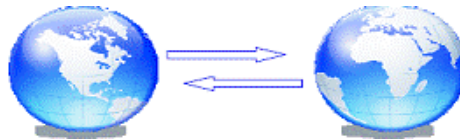
2009 Africa Business Conference

An African Diaspora Industry Sectors Network (ADISN) Event

June 17-18, 2009

Norfolk Waterside Marriott Hotel

Norfolk, Virginia



Conference Theme: **"U.S. - Africa Trade: Yes We Can!"**

Focus Areas: Transportation, Construction, Food & Drink Processing and ICT (Other industries will be represented)

Invited Featured Countries: The Gambia, Malawi, Ghana, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Benin

With the historic economic downturn in the U.S. and global markets, companies of all sizes are looking to develop new strategic relationships in emerging markets such as Africa. The 2009 Africa Business Conference will put conference attendees in the right environment to network and pursue successful business relationships with African public and private sector business contacts.

Who Should Attend? Any size U.S. company including small, medium and minority firms, public and private economic and business development professionals, professionals in international trade, import/export, manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, logistics and transportation, U.S. Commerce and State Department professionals, Africa embassy trade officials, Africa-based entrepreneurs and companies or anyone interested in U.S. - Africa trade and commerce relationships.

Early Bird Registration* - ADISN Clients \$199 / General Public \$299

General Registration* - ADISN Clients \$299 / General Public \$399

This conference is sponsored in part by:



Virginia Port Authority



Hampton Roads Economic Development Alliance

***Early Bird registration is available through April 3, 2009. General registration will end on May 31, 2009. On-site registration will not be available. For information, please call (757) 238-7790 or visit www.diversityrestoration.com.**