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Jeffco EDC sells out first ever Colorado Aerospace and Defense Small Business Industry Day

Hundreds of small businesses met with NASA & other CO Aerospace and Defense leaders for contract opportunities

Jefferson County, Colo. – The Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation (Jeffco EDC) hosted the inaugural Aerospace and Defense Small Business Industry Day at the Sheraton Denver West Hotel in Lakewood, CO on Tuesday June 28th. The event was a sellout with 350 attendees from across the nation. The all-day event provided attendees with an overall look at what is happening in the Colorado aerospace industry, breakout sessions on key business topics, networking opportunities, and individual matchmaking meetings with prime contractors for small businesses. The event was also a first for several NASA centers including, NASA's Ames Research Center, Armstrong Flight Research Center, Glenn Research Center, Goddard Space Flight Center, Johnson Space Center, Kennedy Space Center, and Marshall Space Flight Center in their efforts to increase outreach to small businesses. Jefferson County was one of two locations selected in the U.S. to host a contract opportunity event.

Jeffco EDC's Board Chairman, John Moore, kicked off the event welcoming the sold-out crowd and highlighted the region's aerospace industry - "A growing part of Colorado's aerospace industry is in Jefferson County, which accounts for more than thirty percent of the aerospace employment in the metro Denver region. With its highly educated workforce, world-renowned research institutions, and globally positioned companies, the county is a high-tech hub for aerospace companies."

Additional featured speakers included U.S. Congressman Mike Coffman (R) (CO-6) and U.S. Congressman Ed Perlmutter (D) (CO-7). Mark Teskey, Director, Small Business Programs Department of the US Air Force was the lunch keynote speaker.

Many Aerospace and Defense Prime Contractors participated in the one-on-one matchmaking sessions, including, Lockheed Martin, Ball Aerospace, Boeing, ULA, Sierra Nevada Corp., CH2M, Harris Corp., Jacobs Engineering, Teledyne, and Arcata Associates, Inc.

Thank you to the event's **sponsors**:

Universal Sponsor: Lockheed Martin

Galactic Sponsors: Colorado Space Business Roundtable, Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade, and Martin/Martin Consulting Engineers

Orbital Sponsors: Colorado Small Business Development Center, Colorado OEDIT Minority Business Office, Denver West Business Park, and Craig Technologies

Lunch Sponsor: Colorado Space Coalition

Interstellar Sponsors: American Job Center and Manufacturer's Edge

Jefferson County Economic Development Corporation (Jeffco EDC) is an economic development organization in Jefferson County, CO, with public and private members. The organization concentrates on creating, expanding, and retaining high-paying primary jobs that fuel the economic health and vitality of Jefferson County. For more information, please call 303-202-2965 or visit our website at www.jeffcoedc.org