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Conference is small business matchmaker

By Cindy Kent

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Small business owners can have the opportunity to reach out to develop and expand business relationships in the community at an upcoming expo.

The Palm Beach Partners is hosting its fifth annual Palm Beach Partners Business Matchmaker Conference & Expo on Sept. 14 at the Hilton Palm Beach Airport.

Palm Beach Partners is a coalition of city, county, state and non-profit agencies aligned to maximize economic development opportunities for small businesses in South Florida.

The expo features a day of workshops, networking and presentations.

An opening session, "The Five Keys to Mastering the New Economy," will be presented by Marvin Dejean, chief executive officer of Markcom Industries, Inc.

The luncheon keynote will be presented by T. Willard Fair, president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Greater Miami, Inc.

Workshop topics include: business finance, marketing/public relations, legal, and insurance.

Attendees can make an appointment for a one-on-one- 15-minute speed coaching session.

A business-to-business expo will help attendees connect with a variety of vendors and resources.

Small business owners will be able to stay in touch with their businesses at the Internet Café in the Resource Lounge.

Palm Beach Partners is made up of agencies like the South Florida Water Management District, Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners, School District of Palm Beach County, City of West Palm Beach, Center for Technology Enterprise and Development (TED) and the Paragon Foundation of Palm Beach County, Inc.

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The collaborative is designed to benefit small, woman-owned and disadvantaged business enterprises.

This year's theme is "The Work continues in a Challenging Economy: Rise to the Top!"

If you go:

- ε **What:** 2011 Palm Beach Partners Business Matchmaker Conference & Expo
- ε **When:** Sept. 14
- ε **Where:** [Hilton](#) Palm Beach Airport.
- ε **Details:** Expo/conference theme: The Work continues in a Challenging Economy: Rise to the Top!"
- ε **Sponsor:** Palm Beach Partners
- ε **Cost:** \$50.
- ε **Contact:** pbmatchmaker.com

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