

★ DAKOTA DEFENSE ALLIANCE ★

DECEMBER 15, 2010

DEAN BRESCIANI TO PRESENT AWARDS TO LOCAL HONOREES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BRESCIANI WILL PRESENT AWARDS AT LOCAL BANQUET

Wednesday, December 15, 2010 (Fargo, ND) the Dakota Defense Alliance (DDA) announced it will host a business matchmaking and banquet kick-off aimed towards regional businesses in advanced power and energy. President of North Dakota State University (NDSU) Dean Bresciani will be presenting awards to local honorees at the banquet. Gene Griffin (Fargo), Sylvan Melroe (Fargo), (Maj Gen (ret) Darrol Schroeder (Fargo) and Don Hedger (Killdeer) will receive awards for small business empowerment and excellence in technology advancement, among others.

DDA is a sub-contractor for the Advanced Power and Energy Cluster (APEC), a regional innovation program funded by the Small Business Association (SBA). The goal of this cluster is to develop and promote power and energy technology in the Upper Midwest. The ultimate goal is to accelerate technology solutions to meet the needs of the Department of Defense (DoD) by creating jobs and empowering our small businesses.

NeTia Richards, Principal for APEC for the Dakota's Region said "It is an opportunity for us to collaborate with regional organizations, academia, industry and government institutions to increase the job market, technology development and advancement while bringing short and long-term technology needs to our war fighters."

The business matchmaking event will bring cluster members in with industry leaders to discuss emerging technology, product commercialization and funding sources. This will take place at the NDSU Alumni Center with a reception and banquet to follow.

If interested in attending the banquet please visit www.dakotadefensealliance.com to register.

The Dakota Defense Alliance, a non-profit organization located in North Dakota aims to network and expand defense industry job opportunities in both North and South Dakota and provide greater visibility for our heartland manufacturers. DDA has just over 35 members from within the state and across the country.

www.dakotadefensealliance.com

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*"It is our hope that as we get our names out, become better informed, and network, we can secure more work for all of our companies. This is just the start, but it is the right way to set us apart from other Alliances across the country."
~Executive Director, Kristin Hedger~*