



BUSINESS & FINANCE

National Hispanic Business Information Clearinghouse Remains Focus of Dallas Latino Community

- Two Weeks after Hispanic Chamber Rollout, Online Portal for Aspiring Entrepreneurs Takes the Stage at Rare U.S.-Based IME Conference -

DALLAS, April 24 /PRNewswire-HISPANIC PR WIRE/ -- The National Hispanic Business Information Clearinghouse, a new online resource to help Hispanic entrepreneurs overcome historic barriers to business success, will be unveiled to a prominent international audience today at a meeting of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad (IME) in Dallas.

The IME is a 152-member advisory council formed by the Mexican government in 2003 in recognition of the need to incorporate Mexican communities abroad in the design of policies that affect them and to create an important bond with countrymen who live in other countries. The group meets twice a year, and the Dallas meeting -- being held at the Renaissance Hotel -- will mark only the second time that it has gathered in the United States.

On the agenda is an intimate "screening" of the National Hispanic Business Information Clearinghouse, or NHBIC. Located at <http://www.nhbic.org>, the Web-based resource helps aspiring and current business owners navigate the legal, licensing, permitting, accounting, contracting, human resource, marketing and sales challenges associated with running a successful business.

Officially rolled out in Dallas two weeks ago at an event hosted by founding sponsor Western Union and the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the NHBIC will be presented today to the IME's Economic Affairs Commission. Among the attendees will be immigrant leaders from across the United States who can help multiply the reach of the NHBIC among immigrant communities at the grassroots level.

"Whether they are born in the U.S. or migrate here seeking a better life, Latinos share an ethic of hard work and an entrepreneurial spirit. No matter how inspired and driven they may be, however, they still need a sound fundamental grounding in the Three M's of business -- Money, Markets and Management -- in order to be truly successful," said Salvador Gomez, founder of the website and president and CEO of Denver, Colo.-based Source One Management, Inc. "The NHBIC was designed to provide clarity and access to that information for communities that have not historically enjoyed such access."

More than a static website, the NHBIC features professionally pre-screened and categorized business content, available for free in both Spanish and English and customized with resources specific to the greater Dallas area. The Dallas site is the second (following Denver) of what will ultimately be 15 locally customized versions of the NHBIC nationwide. It is also the first in what will become a series of online portals designed specifically for ethnic audiences; additional clearinghouses will be launched in coming years to serve African-American, Asian and possibly other communities.



"The NHBIC and subsequent clearinghouses go to the core of helping diverse individuals and communities around the world realize their potential and improve their futures through business innovation, education and training," said Michael L. Barrera, president of the NHBIC and former president and CEO of the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. "We are very pleased to be included within the context of an IME meeting, as we share that organization's goal of empowering Mexican immigrants and other populations with the tools and knowledge to succeed."

About NHBIC

The National Hispanic Business Information Clearinghouse (NHBIC) provides critical business information on access to capital, equal access to markets, and management training to support the startup and growth of Hispanic businesses throughout the United States. For more information, visit <http://www.nhbic.org> .

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