

PRESS RELEASE

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Conference on Sustainability and Growth Sponsored by CMTC, SASSFA and County of Los Angeles WIB

TORRANCE, CA – <u>CMTC</u>, <u>The County of Los Angeles Workforce Investment Board</u> and <u>Southeast Area Social Services Funding Authority</u> (SASSFA) are hosting <u>Small Business L.A.</u>, a one-day conference aimed at providing resources to sustain and help small businesses grow in the Los Angeles County area. The conference will be held on April 20, 2011, at the Sheraton Hotel in Cerritos, CA from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm.

The conference is designed to provide small business owners with access to the many tools available to them such as tax credit programs, healthcare reform impact, small business loans, employee training subsidies, and various methods to saving their business money. The goal is to improve business efficiency and identify expanded business opportunities.

"Thanks to an \$180,000 grant from SASSFA, CMTC is helping LA County manufacturers implement solutions to sustain, strengthen and grow their businesses. We're really pleased to be partnering with SASSFA. By making key resources available, businesses can not only better cope with these tough times, but position themselves for new opportunities as the economy improves," stated David Braunstein, CEO and President of CMTC.

"In these difficult economic times, it is even more important that businesses have access to information and resources that will support their bottom line. This is what the conference intends to do," said SASSFA Executive Director, Kirk Kain.

The special keynote speaker will be Dr. Christopher Thornberg, leading economic forecaster of Beacon Economics and former Chief Economic Advisor for State Controller John Chiang. He will speak on California's economy and what it means for the future of small businesses in Los Angeles County.

Panelists and speakers to include representatives from Department of Commerce, the Employment Development Department, the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, the Small Business Administration, and a major commercial bank, among others.

ABOUT CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGY CONSULTING

A private, nonprofit corporation established in 1992, CMTC is an affiliate of NIST MEP, under the Federal Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program, a network of more than 60 centers across the country that provide assistance to small, medium and large manufacturers. CMTC serves Fresno to San Diego/Imperial County. For more information, visit www.cmtc.com.