



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ALOHACONNECTS.COM TO CONNECT HAWAII BUSINESSES TO APEC MEMBER ECONOMIES

ADDITIONAL ONE-DAY SEMINARS ADDED IN AUGUST

(Honolulu, Hawaii) After a state-wide initiative to share with Hawaii small and medium sized business owners how they can expand their businesses by connecting with APEC member economies in preparation for the November APEC meetings, Aloha Connects is launching a website to connect Hawaii based businesses on O'ahu and Hawai'i with opportunities throughout the APEC member economies in August.

This website will include Hawaii small and medium sized businesses and organizations and showcase their companies' stories and profiles. It will also include a preliminary look at the different economies of the APEC members as well as screened contacts that Hawaii businesses can contact for potential expansion opportunities.

For businesses that missed the initial workshop series, **Aloha Connects will host additional one-day seminars** for businesses that are interested in learning how they can benefit from sharing their company stories via this website and connecting with other APEC member economies:

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>ALOHA CONNECTS SEMINAR LOCATION</u>
City & County of Honolulu	Tuesday, August 2	Hawaii State Capitol Auditorium, Honolulu
Hawai'i County	Thursday, August 11	
	Monday, August 22	'Imiloa Astronomy Center, Hilo

Pre-event reservations are required. Enterprise Honolulu encourages community businesses and enterprises to participate in any seminar within any of the Counties. Kauai County and Maui County will hold their seminars in September and are still confirming the dates.

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For more information on specific Aloha Connects seminars and to register, visit:

Oahu Economic Development Board: (808) 521-3611, www.enterprisehonolulu.com

Hawaii Island Economic Development Board: (808) 960-7503, www.hiedb.org

Enterprise Honolulu, the O'ahu Economic Development Board, is a private non-profit organization that envisions a prosperous Hawai'i through partnerships, collaboration, and community input. Our grounding values are Aloha and Pono and we believe that with these values, we are able to unite all sectors of Hawaii's residents and visitors to a full and healthy future.

Aloha Connects is a collaborative effort made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration and in partnership with the State of Hawaii Department of Business Economic Development & Tourism, and support from the Kauai Economic Development Board, Maui Economic Development Board, Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, the U.S. Small Business Administration, Hawaii Small Business Development Center Network, the State of Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs Business Action Center, the Hawaii-Pacific Export Council and the APEC Hawaii Host committee.

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