

**Mandaree Company partnered with global business leader  
MENTOR PROTÉGÉ PROGRAM**

WASHINGTON, June 30, 2004 – An electronics manufacturer based in Mandaree is teaming up to learn from one of the world's leading providers of information technology in a partnership promoted by Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D.

Mandaree Enterprise Corp. is partnering with Computer Sciences, Corp. as part of a Mentor-Protégé Program sponsored by the Department of Homeland Security.

"The Mentor-Protégé Program teams up experienced government contractors with young businesses in an effort to help them gain the experiences and opportunities they need to compete," Conrad said, announcing the partnership.

"This is an opportunity for the entrepreneurs at Mandaree Enterprise to thrive, helping our state's economy grow while working in partnership with a global company," Conrad said.

Mandaree Enterprise Corp. and Computer Sciences Corp. were brought together by their interest in Conrad's high-tech "smart border" project. Conrad has proposed the project to the Department of Homeland Security to test technology solutions to secure remote stretches of the northern border with Canada from a base in Grand Forks.

Conrad is advocating for \$10 million in Homeland Security for the project to test advanced border technology solutions, said Clarence O'Berry, chief executive officer of Mandaree Enterprise Corp. The advanced border technology would include cameras, sensors and integrating software.

Gov. John Hoeven also is supporting the "smart border project," O'Berry said.

Through the Homeland Security's Mentor-Protégé Program, Computer Sciences will help Mandaree Enterprise with transferring technology to include finance, contracts, marketing, proposals, systems engineering, and technical capabilities, O'Berry and Conrad said.

The Department of Homeland Security sponsors the Mentor-Protégé Program to develop long-term business relationships between large and small businesses alike.

"This partnership program really helps us build our capabilities to compete in this global market," O'Berry said. He said this Mentor-Protégé Program is the first one signed with a North Dakota company and the 10<sup>th</sup> one nationwide.

Mandaree Enterprise Corp. was founded in 1990 by the Three Affiliated Tribes. The company has been certified by the Small Business Administration as a HubZone, which positions Mandaree Enterprise and other companies to acquire contracting opportunities. The company is also certified as a Small Disadvantage Business.

Currently, the company has offices in Mandaree and New Town and expects to reopen its office in White Shield. It also has satellite facilities and offices in Washington, D.C., Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Austin, Texas, Fargo, Detroit, Sterling, VA., and Hawaii. There are also employees working in the Baghdad area in Iraq, Thailand and Korea.

Last year, Mandaree Enterprise employed 70 people and did more than \$8 million in business, O'Berry said.

Computer Sciences Corp. was founded in 1959, and is a Fortune 500 company employing more than 90,000 people worldwide. Headquartered in El Segundo, California, the company reported revenue of more than \$14 billion last year.

"This program is a winning situation for all involved," Conrad said. "We are developing partnerships between large and small businesses, encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship, and making real investments in North Dakota and our nation."

### **CEO of Mandaree company honored**

Washington – Clarence O'Berry, chief executive officer of Mandaree Enterprise Corp., was honored at an awards ceremony June 23 in Washington, D.C., as one of the 50 influential minorities in business.

The awards were sponsored by the Minority Business & Professionals Network, Inc., and Minority Enterprise Advocate Magazine.

Those honored from across the country range from individuals involved in small businesses to large corporations. O'Berry was the only North Dakotan and the only American Indian receiving an award in this year's group of selectees.

O'Berry has been chief executive officer since 1994 of Mandaree Enterprise Corp. based in Mandaree. The company is owned by the Three Affiliated Tribes.

The Minority Business & Professionals Network is based in Washington, D.C. and is an advocate for businesses for minorities.

SOURCE            Wednesday, June 30, 2004, Minot (N.D.) Daily News  
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