



State of Maine Homeland Security Conference Committee
at the Margaret Chase Smith Center for Public Policy
University of Maine
5715 Coburn Hall
Orono, Maine 04469-5715

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DEADLINE TO PARTICIPATE IN MAINE'S FIRST-EVER HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE DRAWS NEAR

Governor Baldacci, Senator Collins Urge Interested Individuals to Register as Soon as Possible

AUGUSTA – Governor John Baldacci and Senator Susan Collins, who are cosponsors of Maine's first-ever Homeland Security Conference today announced that participation is at near capacity and are encouraging interested individuals to register for the May 14 conference as soon as possible. Spearheaded by Governor Baldacci and Senator Collins, the upcoming Maine Homeland Security Conference will address ways in which Maine companies, universities and first responders can access resources available to them through the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as well as Homeland Security challenges which are particular to Maine.

"This landmark conference provides opportunities for attendees to access critical resources," said Governor Baldacci. "It is a true one-stop-shop for information, enabling the state to be well-placed for homeland security readiness and management. I appreciate the breadth of participation, and look forward to an engaging event."

"Gaining a clear understanding of Homeland Security resources available to Maine's businesses, first responder and local officials are crucial to our efforts to ensure that Maine is as secure as possible. This conference will provide participants with a better understanding of what resources are available and how collaborative efforts can help us better accomplish our goals. I highly encourage participation by anyone who is interested," said Senator Collins.

The conference is scheduled for Friday, May 14, 2004 at the University of Maine, Orono Campus. Registration is available by logging on to the Homeland Security Conference website: www.umaine.edu/mcsc/homeland.htm.

About the Conference: The State of Maine Homeland Security Conference is presented by Governor John Baldacci and Senator Susan Collins, and produced by the University of Maine and the Maine Small Business Development Centers, in association with the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Maine's Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP), Maine Market Development Center (MDC) and the University of Maine's Office of the Vice President for Research. The conference will bring together leaders in homeland security policy with small businesses, first responders, municipalities, suppliers and service providers that will benefit Maine businesses and its citizens. The conference will take place on May 14th and will be held at the Orono campus of the University of Maine. For more information, visit <http://www.umaine.edu/mcsc/>.



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The conference will consist of a number of educational tracks which include the following:

- Pursuing Business Opportunities – includes discussion on doing business with DHS, beneficial small business programs and a Homeland Security business forum.
- Small Business/Supply Chain Management – includes a session on the New England Manufacturing Supply Chain initiative, identifying supplier capabilities and manufacturing capacity, and technology transfer and commercialization opportunities with federal laboratories.
- First Responder/Transportation Security – includes workshops on threat levels and response methods, transportation awareness and pre-planning, and hazardous materials and bioterrorism.
- Research and Development – provides information about opportunities available in Maine, challenges of technology commercialization, business development, and homeland security research and support services at the University of Maine.

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