



For Immediate Release
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Contact: Mary Anne Rooney
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**SUMMIT TO FOCUS ON WORLD TRADE
FOR VENTURA COUNTY BUSINESSES**

CAMARILLO, Calif.— Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura area accounted for \$2.58 billion in exports for 2008, an increase of 6.6 percent from the 2007 level, according to Dr. Ashish Vaidya, California State University, Channel Islands. With international trade playing such a crucial role in the county’s economic vitality, area business leaders need to understand how government initiatives can affect jobs and their businesses. In response, the Economic Development Collaborative-Ventura County, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Commerce and the District Export Council, is holding the World Trade Week Summit: Jobs, Prosperity and the National Export Initiative on May 20. Richard Swanson, regional director, Pacific South Region, U.S. Department of Commerce will be the keynote speaker for the event held 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Limoneira Ranch, 1141 Cummings Road, Santa Paula. There also will be a discussion regarding international resources.

“Under this new export initiative, the county stands to gain even more in engaging in global trade,” said Vaidya, who will make a presentation on the impact of international trade on Ventura County.

At the event, the Award of Excellence will be presented to Earth Safe Finishes, which manufactures and exports organic stains and paints. Owner Nancy Burkhart is a graduate of EDC-VC’s G.E.T. Trade program.

(more)

EDC-VC/World Trade Summit
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For more information about the summit, contact Mary Anne Rooney, program director, at (805) 384-1800 ext. 25 or gettradeinfo@edc-vc.com.

Cost is \$25; reservation deadline is May 17. To RSVP, contact Kelly Noble at (805) 384-1800 ext. 21 or kelly.noble@edc-vc.com.

The World Trade Week Summit is sponsored by Limoneira; Rabobank; and Port of Hueneme, Oxnard Harbor District.

Established in 1996, EDC-VC is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as a business-to-government liaison to assist businesses in Ventura County by offering programs that enhance the economic vitality of the region. For more information about the Business Enhancement Program, the Revolving Loan Fund and other services available to small businesses through the EDC-VC, contact Bruce Stenslie at 805-384-1800 ext. 21 or bruce.stenslie@edc-vc.com.

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