



Manufacturing Consortium Update - VOICE

A reliable and qualified manufacturing supply chain is critical to defense primes, their tiered contractors and DoD organic manufacturing and maintenance facilities. NCDMM is uniquely structured to facilitate and continuously improve the supply chain process by:

- Providing small and medium size manufacturing firms (SMEs) the ability to identify new opportunities that meet their unique capabilities through its *Manufacturing Consortium*;
- Providing equipment, consumables, raw material, and technology providers the ability to assure outsourcing needs are met with effective, state-of-the-art products and services through its *Alliance Partner Network*.

NCDMM has been successfully facilitating these "matchmaking" processes and projects resulting in efficiencies and cost savings improvements for DoD industrial base outsourcers and increasing business opportunities for Manufacturing Consortium members and Alliance Partners. However, as the memberships and opportunities have grown so has the complexity of the managing this process. At the recent *Summit 2009*, NCDMM unveiled a new tool being developed – VOICE, the Virtual Opportunity Interchange Center. VOICE is a web platform that is a self propagating application consisting of interconnected industrial communities of companies and value chain participants, leading to information sharing and ideation, and discovery of complementary relationships and knowledge – an "eharmony™" for outsourcers and parts/technology providers.

NCDMM has partnered with Imaginestics who is customizing their Viz Space platform to meet the specific needs and requirements that VOICE is intended to address. Viz Space is an online network of private and public industrial communities, where companies and professionals can showcase products and services. VOICE is a private community that will leverage the present capabilities and ongoing developments of the Viz Space technology to facilitate and automate the NCDMM supply chain support process. VOICE will:

- Create awareness for VOICE members about targeted defense industry sources of opportunities;
- Create awareness for Primes and defense agencies about VOICE member capabilities;
- Allow outsourcers to easily post opportunities or search for specific capabilities (manufacturing processes/equipment, business type, etc.);
- Automatically and continuously search VOICE posted and publicly posted (FedBizOpps, etc.) opportunities, match to provider capability profiles and notify the provider.

VOICE is presently in its Beta stage and is being refined and tested by NCDMM, Imaginestics and its group of industrial advisors and will be "live" soon! For more information, please contact Ralph Resnick at ralph.resnick@ncdmm.org.