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New Mexico 9000 Now Accepting Applications for January ISO Certification Class

ISO 9000 certification enables New Mexico companies to compete for government and international business

SANTA FE – The New Mexico Economic Development Department announced today that the New Mexico 9000 program is accepting applications for its 2008 ISO certification training class. The class will begin in late January, 2008, in Albuquerque.

ISO certification is a basic requirement for many international and government contracts. New Mexico 9000 is an affordable program that prepares New Mexico companies to attain internationally recognized ISO 9001:2000 status. To date, more than 244 New Mexico companies have adopted the ISO 9000 standards. New Mexico 9000 has helped more than 178 New Mexico companies compete in national and international markets, resulting in the creation of more than 900 new expansion jobs in the state.

“This program puts New Mexico companies on equal footing with vendors across the globe,” said Fred Mondragón, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Economic Development Department. “It provides management with the tools essential to enhancing their business for a very competitive international marketplace.”

The ISO 9001:2000 certification process guides management through their organization’s goals, policies, and procedures and the process by which they are maintained and improved. The system helps both manufacturing and services.

The cost of the New Mexico 9000 program ranges from \$1,000 to \$6,000, based on the business’ gross sales. Fifty percent of the cost is refunded upon completion of the program, and costs incurred in becoming ISO certified are tax deductible. The New Mexico 9000 program can be completed in as little as six months.

In comparison, cost analysis shows that the average cost of ISO training through private consultants is \$120,000 and can take up to three years to complete.

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“No other state offers a program like New Mexico 9000,” said Senior Program Manager Ken Manicki. “We’ve been extremely successful in helping local companies compete in an increasingly global economy.”

The New Mexico 9000 won a National award from the Council of State Governments in 2004 as the most innovative state program for economic development.

New Mexico 9000 is a collaborative effort of the New Mexico Economic Development Department, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Sandia National Laboratories and Honeywell Federal Manufacturing and Technologies.

For more information about this program, contact Ken Manicki, Program Manager at the Economic Development Department at (505) 827-0563 or kenneth.manicki@state.nm.us

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