



Early-bird Registration Now Open for the USBLN® 2011 Annual Conference & Expo October 16-19 in Louisville, Kentucky

“Unlocking Key Business Drivers: Disability in the Workplace, Marketplace and Supply Chain”

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WASHINGTON, DC (February 25, 2011) – The US Business Leadership Network (USBLN®) will host its 14th Annual Conference & Expo on October 16 -19, 2011 at the Louisville Marriott Downtown hotel located in Louisville, Kentucky. Entitled, “**Unlocking Key Business Drivers: Disability in the Workplace, Marketplace and Supply Chain - Strategies for Business Success**” it is the preeminent national employer-to-employer event that taps into the vast economic potential of people with disabilities. This year's event, building on the highly successful 2010 conference, will deliver enhanced networking opportunities, offer exciting interactive sessions, and feature respected thought-leaders and industry luminaries. This conference brings corporate, government, disability-owned businesses and BLN affiliates together to create workplaces, marketplaces, and supply chains where people with disabilities are fully included as professionals, customers and entrepreneurs.

“The purpose of the annual conference is to assemble employers, BLN Affiliates, corporate members, partners and stakeholders to identify successful strategies and key business drivers designed to build workplaces, marketplaces and supply chains where people with disabilities can realize their full potential and be respected for their talents. We look forward to delivering an exciting program of the highest quality in Louisville this October,” shared **Jill Houghton**, USBLN® Acting Executive Director.

Educational sessions will be presented within three tracks: Workplace, Marketplace and Supply Chain. Continuing an outstanding collaboration between two of the nation's top organizations working to make workplaces inclusive, the Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is partnering with the USBLN® to present essential accommodation solutions within the Workplace track. The conference will also include pre- and post- conference sessions including specifically designed for the USBLN®'s over 60 Business Leadership Network affiliates across the country.

The USBLN® Annual Conference & Expo will also feature:

- Attendance of 600 senior business executives, government and community leaders;
- Special events and enhanced networking opportunities available throughout the conference;
- Over 30 tiered educational sessions taught by industry leaders, experts from the USBLN® and the Job Accommodation Network (JAN);
- BLN Affiliate meetings and specialized pre- and post-conference sessions;
- Bring full inclusion to supply chains by integrating certified disability-owned businesses through the USBLN® Disability Supplier Diversity ProgramSM ;
- Entrepreneurs with a disability will learn how to enhance their access to business development opportunities through certification;

- Tools to expand internship and mentoring programs to include students with disabilities through the USBLN® TOWER™ Initiative;
- Opportunities to network with corporate Employee Resource Group representatives;
- 2011 Annual Leadership Awards; and
- Much more!

Conference registration is now open with an early-bird rate for the four-day conference including over 30 educational sessions, Expo, special events and some meals for \$495. After July 1, 2011 the rate increases to \$549. Single day rates and an additional discount are offered for two or more attendees from the same organization. For more information about the conference or to register, visit www.usblnannualconference.org.

Attendees are kindly requested to book their hotel rooms early. The conference site hotel is the Marriott Louisville Downtown with online reservations offered [here](#) or via 800-266-9432 under the group, “US Business Leadership Network (USBLN®).” Rooms for the group start at \$145 for single/double occupancy. The group room rate is valid from check-in on October 15 through check-out on October 19, 2011 based on availability. The discounted group rate is available on a first-come, first-served basis with rooms expected to sell out early.

About the US Business Leadership Network (USBLN®)

The US Business Leadership Network® (USBLN®) is the national disability organization that serves as the collective voice of over 60 Business Leadership Network affiliates across North America, representing over 5,000 employers. The USBLN® promotes the business imperative of the preparation and inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace, marketplace, and supply chain while supporting the development and expansion of its BLN affiliates. The USBLN® recognizes and supports best practices in hiring and advancing employees with disabilities, marketing to consumers with disabilities, and encourages contracting with vendors with disabilities through the development and certification of disability-owned business enterprises.

www.usbln.org

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