

Compliance Assistance Centers

- Agriculture <http://www.epa.gov/agriculture/>
- Auto Service Industry <http://www.ccar-greenlink.org/>
- Chemicals <http://www.chemalliance.org/>
- Local Government <http://www.lgean.org/>
- Metal Finishing <http://www.nmfrc.org/>
- Paints and Coatings <http://www.paintcenter.org/>
- Printed Wiring Boards <http://www.pwbrc.org/>
- Printing <http://www.pneac.org/>
- Transportation <http://www.transource.org/>

EPA also manages a National Compliance Assistance Clearinghouse as a guide to compliance information on the Internet. This site gives comprehensive links to EPA environmental compliance assistance materials, as well as materials from all 50 states and other organizations. The Clearinghouse contains many features allowing small businesses to interact directly with EPA and improve communication and collaboration among compliance assistance providers.

EPA's Small Business Compliance Policy promotes environmental compliance among small businesses by providing incentives to discover and make good faith efforts to correct violations. Software is also available to assist in certain reporting requirements. The "Toxics Release Inventory—Made Easy" (TRI-ME) software guides users through the entire Toxics Release Inventory reporting process from start to finish.

Information on EPA's initiatives and activities is available on the EPA Small Business Ombudsman Web site <http://www.epa.gov/sbo>. This site links to the Small Business Environmental Homepage <http://www.smallbiz-enviroweb.org/>, which provides extensive small business assistance information. EPA National Asbestos & Small Business hotline for inquiries on environmental regulations may be reached via a toll free number (1-800-368-5888).

Environmental Protection Agency
Single Point of Contact: Karen V. Brown, Director, Small Business Division, EPA Small Business Ombudsman (SBPRA point of contact), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., MC1808T, Washington, DC 20460, Telephone: 202-566-2816, Fax: 202-566-0954. E-mail: brown.karen@epa.gov.

Export-Import Bank

The Export-Import Bank of the United States (Ex-Im Bank) is the official export credit agency of the United States. Ex-Im Bank's mission is to assist in financing the export of U.S. goods and services to international markets. Ex-Im Bank enables U.S. companies—large and small—to turn export opportunities into real sales that help to maintain and create U.S. jobs and contribute to a stronger national economy.

Ex-Im Bank does not compete with private sector lenders but provides export financing products that fill gaps in trade financing. We assume credit and country risks that the private sector is unable or unwilling to accept. We also help to level the playing field for U.S. exporters by matching the financing that other governments provide to their exporters.

Ex-Im Bank provides working capital guarantees (pre-export financing); export credit insurance (post-export financing); and loan guarantees and direct loans (buyer financing). No transaction is too large or too small. On average, 85% of our transactions directly benefit U.S. small businesses.

With nearly 70 years of experience, Ex-Im Bank has supported more than \$400 billion of U.S. exports, primarily to developing markets worldwide.

- Export-Import Bank Mission Statement: <http://www.exim.gov/about/mission.html>
- Pre-Export Financing To Help U.S. Exporters Maximize Borrowing Potential: http://www.exim.gov/products/work_cap.html
- Increase Your Export Sales While Minimizing Risks: <http://www.exim.gov/products/insurance/index.html>
- Special Initiatives for Underserved Small Businesses: <http://www.exim.gov/products/special/underserved.html>

Export-Import Bank Single Point of Contact: Letitia Kress, Export-Import Bank, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20571, Telephone: 202-565-3613. E-mail: letitia.kress@exim.gov.

*Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**Small Business Initiative*

EEOC has developed a Small Business Initiative (SBI) to improve customer service and expand outreach, education, and technical assistance to the small business community. The SBI aims to promote voluntary compliance by building a more cooperative and collaborative relationship with the small and mid-sized business community and to address EEO concerns expressed by

small business owners. The main components of the SBI include:

Small Business Liaisons: Every EEOC District office has a Small Business Liaison available to employers who have questions about the laws enforced by EEOC or about compliance with those laws in specific workplace situations. Information on contacting Small Business Liaisons can be found at www.eeoc.gov/small/contacteeoc.html.

Small Business Web Page: www.eeoc.gov/small—While the information on this page applies to all employers, it has been specifically designed for small businesses which may not have a human resources department or a specialized EEO staff. The page is designed to make it easier for small businesses to comply with the anti-discrimination laws and help them in their dealings with the EEOC.

No-Cost Outreach and Education Programs

EEOC's outreach and education programs provide information about the employment discrimination laws enforced by EEOC and the EEOC charge/complaint process. EEOC representatives are available at no cost to make presentations and participate in meetings with employers and their representative groups. For example, EEOC hosts regular meetings with employers and employer groups, such as stakeholder advisory councils to get feedback on legal and operational issues; provides speakers and trainers for conferences, seminars, workshops and classroom presentations and for regular scheduled meetings of organizations, professional associations, etc.; distributes information materials on EEO laws and represent the Commission at events, such as job fairs, conventions and conferences; and participates in media presentations—including radio and TV interviews, as well as cyber-chats.

A list of outreach coordinators and contact information can be found at www.eeoc.gov/outreach/coordinators.html.

Fee-Based Training and Technical Assistance

EEOC presents a wide variety of fee-based training and technical assistance programs throughout the country geared to employers in the private sector, including small businesses, as well as federal, state and local government agencies. Training and technical assistance available includes:

Technical Assistance Program Seminars (TAPS): Seminars emphasize how to prevent EEO problems from developing and how to resolve