

Contact: Madeline Gorman
Curt Cultice, U.S. Commerce Department

Ms. Gorman: 202-482-3809
Mr. Cultice: 202-482-2253

December 15, 2004

BUSH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIAL HONORS PENNSYLVANIA COMPANIES FOR EXPORT ACHIEVEMENTS

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15 / PRNewswire / -- Rhonda Keenum, Assistant Secretary for Trade Promotion and Director General of the U.S. Commercial Service today presented the U.S. Commerce Department's Export Achievement Award to Lehightronics Inc., Lehightronics; A. Rifkin Company, Wilkes-Barre; and Numonics Corp., Montgomeryville. The award recognizes small and medium-sized companies that have benefited from U.S. Commercial Service export assistance to make their first export sale or open new foreign markets.

"With 95 percent of the world's consumers living outside of the United States, there is tremendous potential for Pennsylvania companies to expand their global sales through exports," Keenum said. "The Bush Administration will continue to work hard to help U.S. firms increase their exports and generate high-paying jobs for the working people of Pennsylvania and across the country. I commend these three companies for their commitment to exporting."

-- Lehightronics Inc. is a rural-based company and a high-quality producer of test equipment instruments used in the semiconductor industry. The firm has benefited from Philadelphia U.S. Export Assistance Center counseling, market research and worldwide Commercial Service and international partner searches as well as Small Business Administration loan programs to successfully export to Asia and other countries.

-- A. Rifkin Company is a family-owned rural manufacturer and international distributor of tamper-resistant fabric security bags used mainly by banking institutions worldwide. Rifkin has been exporting for many years to several countries and also sells to the U.S. Government. The firm has benefited from local U.S. Export Assistance Center counseling, market research, BuyUSA website, and advertisements in Commercial News USA to generate multiple export sales over the past two years to countries in the Middle East and Asia.

-- **Numonics Corp.**, a District Export Council member and area manufacturer, designs, produces, and markets computer input measurement devices. Identifying new market opportunities for its core technology, Numonics entered the fast growing teleconferencing market by introducing interactive presentation products. Numonics has worked closely with the Philadelphia U.S. Export Assistance Center to develop markets in Europe and the Middle East through Commercial News USA and other Commercial Service products. Another recent export success is a new-to-market sale to Africa.

The U.S. Commercial Service is a U.S. Commerce Department agency that helps small and midsize U.S. businesses sell their products and services globally. The Philadelphia U.S. Export Assistance Center is part of the agency's worldwide network, which includes 108 U.S. Export Assistance Centers throughout the United States and nearly 150 international offices. For more information on the U.S. Commercial Service, please call Michael Lally, Director at 215-597-6101 or visit <http://www.buyusa.gov/philadelphia>

CONTACT: Madeline Gorman, +1-202-482-3809, or Curt Cultice, +1-202-482-2253, both of the U.S. Commerce Department.

Web site: <http://www.buyusa.gov/>

<http://www.buyusa.gov/philadelphia>