



*Free Enterprise
The Future of Construction*

ABC Partners With NAMC, WCOE to Further Improve Business Climate for Women, Minorities

ABC June 5 signed two national-level agreements with the National Association of Minority Contractors (NAMC) and Women Construction Owners and Executives, USA (WCOE) intended to promote free enterprise, open competition and opportunities for all construction firms.

The strategic alliances, which were officially entered into during ABC's recent Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., will allow construction's leading diversity stakeholders to develop national initiatives that will encourage similar local level programs designed to improve the business climate for all contractors, and to empower minority- and women-owned firms by providing them with access to services, training, networking and other programs. Additionally, the national-level agreements are expected to trigger similar partnerships among each association's local members nationwide.

"We are pleased to be working with these two important groups to develop national initiatives that will help promote free enterprise and opportunities for all," said ABC 2006 National Chairman Jack Darnall. "Removing barriers and creating access to effective business practices and services increases competitiveness, which benefits the entire construction industry."

"We're delighted to join ABC in strengthening our organizations, improving the entire construction industry and building the foundation for the next generation of contractors," said Al Barber, president, NAMC.

Ida Brooker, president of WCOE said, "Working together, while representing many groups in our diverse field will lead to better opportunities for the entire industry, add value to our products and enrich the lives of the men and women working in construction."



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