# Establishing an International Business in Austin

# A Resource Guide Provided by the Greater Austin International Business Coalition



Austin Future photo courtesy of Austin Fit Magazine

The Austin International Business Coalition is composed of representatives from various internationally-focused organizations, local businesses, governmental and educational entities. We are dedicated to the promotion of an international community in Austin, TX. Special thanks to Ben Ramirez with the City of Austin International Economic Development Program, Karen Parker with the Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center and Adriana Cruz with the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce.

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# 1: The Austin Business Advantage

Austin is repeatedly ranked at or near the top of American cities to live in and operate a business. These rankings may be found in major trade publications as well as the minds of local and international business decision makers.

The region is defined by lower business and living costs than most major U.S. metropolitan areas, and a young, well-educated population of 1.5 million.

# 1.1: Austin Profile

Austin thrives on a healthy balance of technology, business services, education and government, and those sectors thrive in Austin. In the state capital of Texas, live music echoes from the nearly 200 venues located within the city limits. Austin also has four lakes and several parks available for natural recreation activities.

To view the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce's profile of Austin in English, visit this link:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/index.html

For the Greater Austin Profile in Chinese:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/Chinese/indexc.html

For the Greater Austin Profile in French:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/French/indexf.html

For the Greater Austin Profile in German:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/German/indexg.html

For the Greater Austin Profile in Japanese:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/Japanese/indexj.html

For the Greater Austin Profile in Korean:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/Korean/indexk.html

For the Greater Austin Profile in Spanish:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/DoBusiness/GreaterAustinProfile/Spanish/indexs.html

# **1.2: Community Partners**

#### 1.2.A: Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce

Based upon recommendations made by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, (<u>www.austinchamber.com</u>), the City of Austin focuses upon and nurtures the following specific high tech and industry clusters: Biotechnology, Clean Energy, Data Centers, Digital Media, Semiconductors, and Wireless Technology.

Focusing on these clusters is an important goal for each of Austin's various economic development partners. For example, Austin is the largest green energy buyer in the U.S.A and operates America's most successful retail clean energy program, the municipally owned and operated Austin Energy.

To learn more about Austin's established and emerging market clusters, visit:

http://www.austinchamber.com/do-business/technology-partnership/

If you are considering expanding or relocating your international business to Greater Austin, please contact:

Adriana Cruz Vice President of Global Corporate Recruitment Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce 535 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street Austin, TX 78701 512/322-5626 <u>acruz@austinchamber.com</u>

#### 1.2.B: Local Government

The City of Austin plays a crucial role in the economic vitality of the community. The Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office (<u>http://www.austintexas.gov/economicgrowth</u>) offers several programs which provide various services designed to assist companies.

The City of Austin Small Business Development Program is committed to providing opportunities and resources which help small businesses grow and prosper in a competitive business environment. For a listing of specific services, visit:

http://austintexas.gov/department/small-business-development-program

Locally-established or expanding companies of every size competing in the established and emerging market clusters will benefit from services offered by the Emerging Technology Program. <u>http://www.austinisit.org</u>

If your international business has any questions regarding City of Austin programs, please contact:

Ben Ramirez III City of Austin International Program Manager 301 W. Second Street Austin, TX 78701 512-974-6416 <u>ben.ramirez@austintexas.gov</u> <u>http://austintexas.gov/international</u>

#### 1.2.C: State Government

The Office of the Governor's Economic Development and Tourism division markets Texas globally as the premier business location and travel destination. It develops strategies to generate leads and inquiries which over time can be developed into business recruitment prospects, export opportunities and tourism.

For more information about international business relocation or export opportunities, contact:

Carolina Safer Director, International Business PO Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711 Carolina.safer@gov.texas.gov

# 1.3: Austin in the Global Economy

When it comes to business, it seems the whole world has a place in the heart of Central Texas. Austin is a truly international city. There are currently 88 distinct foreign languages and dialects spoken by Austin residents. We are proud of the business talent emerging from our top ranking colleges and universities, our recognition in the high-tech industry as an innovative hotbed, and of our ongoing efforts to boost Austin into the top tier of international cultural centers.

Austin residents regularly travel the globe in search of business and cultural exchange opportunities. Our business, professional and student partners come to Austin from locations throughout the world and they often decide to invest more of their time and resources here.

# 1.4: International Companies in Austin

Numerous foreign companies have taken advantage of the favorable business climate in and around Austin. To view the current list of these international companies, visit the following link:

http://www.austinchamber.com/do-business/business-attraction/international-business.php

Greater Austin is ranked among the top 25 exporting regions in the U.S.A. Products and services created here are used by companies and individuals throughout the world.

# 1.5: Austin-Round Rock Exports by Country, 2009



Note: South Korea withheld export data for 2009 and is therefore not ranked.

# 1.6: Austin-Round Rock Exports by North American Industrial Code System (NAICS), 2009



# 2. Setting Up a Business in Austin

### 2.1: Legal Requirements

#### 2.1.A: Business Structure and Name

The first step in starting a business is to determine the basic legal structure of the business, and to establish your business' name. This first step is important because of the financial implications of your decision. The legal structure you choose for your business will affect your corporation's responsibility for annual franchise tax fees, or your own personal liability arising from business decisions and actions.

Your business name will identify, differentiate and market your business. It should be given much thought and consideration.

# A professional tax consultant, accountant, and/or attorney should be consulted when determining your company's legal structure and business name.

A comprehensive examination of the process for establishing a company in Austin can be found online at:

http://www.texasonline.com/guide/index.jsp

Also in Spanish at:

http://www.texas.gov/es/discover/Pages/topic.aspx?topicid=/business/start

#### 2.1.A.i: Legal Structure

There are several legal structures available for businesses operating in Texas. Each structure is listed below with a brief description.

#### Sole Proprietorship:

A sole proprietorship exists when a single individual operates a business and owns all assets. A sole proprietor is personally liable for all debts, and business ownership is nontransferable. Under a sole proprietorship, the life of the business is limited to the life of the individual proprietor. The sole proprietorship makes no legal distinction between personal and business debts, and it does not require a separate income tax return. A sole proprietorship is often operated under the name of the owner. Whenever operating a business under a name other than the sole proprietor, an Assumed Name Certificate or Doing Business As Certificate (DBA) must be filed with the county clerk. Assumed Name Certificates (DBA) are discussed later in this section.

#### **General Partnership:**

A general partnership exists when two or more individuals or businesses join to operate a business. Under a general partnership, a separate business entity exists, but creditors may use the partners' personal assets for satisfaction of debts. General partners share equally in assets and liabilities. A general partnership requires an annual partnership income tax return (separate from the partners' personal returns). A general partnership may be operated under the names of the owners, or an agreed upon business name. In either case, an Assumed Name Certificate must be filed with the county clerk.

#### Limited Partnership:

A limited partnership is a partnership formed by two or more persons or entities, under the laws of Texas, and having one or more general partners and one or more limited partners. General partners share equally in debts and assets, while limited partners have limited debt obligations. A limited partnership must be registered with the Secretary of State. (Please refer to the Business Name section of this Guide for more details.)

#### **Registered Limited Liability Partnership:**

A registered limited liability partnership is a general partnership that has been registered with the Secretary of State. A partner's liability in a registered limited liability partnership differs from that of an ordinary partnership. In a registered limited liability partnership, a partner is not individually liable, under some circumstances, for debts and obligations of the partnership arising from errors, omissions, negligence, incompetence or malfeasance committed in the course of business by others in the partnership.

#### Corporation:

Corporations (Subchapter C or S) are created when two or more individuals, partnerships, or other entities join together to form a separate entity for the purpose of operating a business in the state. A corporation has its own legal identity, separate from its owners. The corporation offers protection to the business owners' personal assets from debts and liabilities relating to the operation of the corporation. Taxation of the corporation varies depending on the type of corporation formed. A corporation must be registered with the Secretary of State.

A Subchapter C Corporation is taxed at a higher rate than an individual. The owners are not taxed personally for profits; however, the owners do pay personal taxes on any salaries and/or dividends, and the corporation is also taxed on the profits.

Owners of Subchapter S Corporations may deduct business losses on personal income tax returns, similar to a partnership. The Subchapter S Corporation also offers alternative methods for distributing the business income to the owners.

#### Limited Liability Company:

A limited liability company is an unincorporated business entity which shares some of the aspects of Subchapter S Corporations and limited partnerships, and yet has more flexibility than more traditional business entities. The limited liability company is designed to provide its owners with limited liability and pass-through tax advantages without the restrictions imposed on Subchapter S Corporations and limited partnerships. A limited liability company must be registered with the Secretary of State.

#### 2.1.A.ii: Business Name

After the business' legal structure has been decided upon, the business name must be registered with the county clerk's office and/or the Texas Secretary of State. Your company's business name should be thoroughly researched. If a corporation and an unincorporated company have very similar names, neither automatically has the right to the name. If both parties have properly filed the Assumed Name or Doing Business As (DBA) Certificate, the true owner of the name will likely be decided in a court of law. Conducting your business name research before you begin your Texas business efforts will allow you to avoid legal costs later.

#### **State Registration**

All businesses operating in Texas must register with the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State only provides forms for registering a limited liability partnership. The Secretary of State publishes the Filing Guide, which offers guidelines for registering business entities. This Filing Guide also includes administrative rules and sample forms.

Corporations, limited partnerships, and limited liability companies organized in other states or countries may transact business in Texas. To do so, the non-Texas business must obtain a Secretary of State certificate of authority. An out-of-state business may also consider the option of creating a Texas corporation, limited partnership, or limited liability company for business transactions in Texas.

A name may not be used by more than one corporation in Texas. The Secretary of State will perform a name search to verify that no other corporation, limited partnership, or limited liability company in Texas is using the exact name selected. To find out if a business name is available, visit the website or call the Secretary of State for an immediate computer search. This search is only for business names registered with the Secretary of State. This search will not include business names registered only by a county clerk's office.

If a corporation will transact business under a name(s) not stated in the articles of incorporation, the corporation must file an Assumed Name Certificate with the Secretary of State, and with the county clerk in which the principal office and

registered office of the corporation are located. (See next section for details on Assumed Name/DBA Certificates.)

For more information, contact:

Secretary of State, Corporations Section, P.O. Box 13697, Austin, Texas 78711-3697 512/463-5555 http://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/index.shtml

#### Local Registration (for Assumed Name/DBA Certificates)

If the business will operate as a sole proprietorship or a general partnership, file an Assumed Name or DBA Certificate for each name (or variation of that name) the business will use. The DBA must be on file with the county clerk in each county where a physical business presence will be maintained. If there is no physical business presence, a DBA should be filed in each county where business will be conducted.

If the business will operate as a corporation, limited partnership, or limited liability company, and the business will be identified by a name other than the name on file with the Secretary of State, an Assumed Name Certificate must be filed with the Secretary of State and each county in which the business will have a registered or principal office.

Neither the filing of an Assumed Name Certificate nor the reservation or registration of a company name imparts any real protection to the party filing the certificate. It is merely a formal process that informs the general public of the registered agent for a business and where official contact with the business may be made.

Bastrop County Clerk's Office information is available at:

http://www.co.bastrop.tx.us/site/content/countyclerk

Caldwell County Clerk's Office information is available at:

http://www.co.caldwell.tx.us/ips/cms/countyoffices/countyClerk.html

Hays County Clerk's Office information is available at:

http://www.co.hays.tx.us/index.php/government/county-clerk/

Travis County Clerk's Office information is available at:

http://www.co.travis.tx.us/county\_clerk/dba.asp

Williamson County Clerk's Office information is available at:

<u>http://wilco-</u> <u>dev.com/CountyDepartments/CountyClerk/CountyClerkRecords/tabid/639/Default.aspx</u>

#### Filing the Assumed Name Certificate

Each county clerk office may use a different form; however, the information requested should be the same. Be prepared to provide the business name, mailing address, city, state, zip, expected period of operation, business type, and owner information.

"Period of operation" is the period of time the business will use the name. Ten years is the maximum length of time an assumed name filing is valid. However, if the name will be used for a period of less than ten years, indicate this on the form. Name filings must be renewed every ten years.

"Business type" refers to the legal structure of the business. Indicate whether the business will be operating as a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.

"Owner information" is the name(s) of the owner(s), personal address(es), and signature(s). All owners' signatures must be notarized. This service is sometimes offered at the county clerk's office. The DBA form cannot be filed until all owners have signed it and all signatures have been notarized.

The following research tips will be helpful in filing the Assumed Name Certificate in the county the business will operate:

First, write down the possible name(s) you will be considering for your business. Pay close attention to capitalization, spacing, punctuation, etc. Remember this name will identify your business to the public.

Next, the county records (assumed name books or county computer) will have to be searched for the name(s) you are considering. Many county clerk offices will provide a name search service for a nominal fee. The whole search process may even be conducted via mail correspondence. Contact the local county clerk for verification of their process.

If you have to search the county records yourself, then remember an assumed name filing is valid for ten years. Begin by searching records for the last ten years to verify that the business name is available. Each record book will not necessarily encompass one year of filings. The front of each book should provide the applicable dates of records found inside. Your county may have computerized records. However, be sure to confirm the computerized records contain ten years of filing history. You may use the computer for the period it covers, and then use the record books for any of the remaining years in your search period.

If the business name has been used, look in the margins of the record books to see if it has been abandoned. If the name has been abandoned, it may legally be used again.

Finally, if the company name is available, fill out the assumed name form and have it notarized. The notarized form may now be filed with the county clerk's office. The county clerk will keep the original Assumed Name Certificate. When you file the form, you will want to request several certified copies (at least one for the bank and one for your business records).

The county clerk's office will provide you with information about filing fees and the accepted form of payment. If processing via mail, send the completed forms by certified mail with a return receipt requested.

#### 2.1.B: Business Permit and License Requirements

A listing of permits and licenses required for conducting business are available on the internet by occupation type. To view this listing, visit:

http://www.texas.gov/en/discover/Pages/topic.aspx?topicid=%2Flicenses%2Fpermits

#### 2.1.C: Business Organization Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

The Texas Secretary of State's website contains several frequently asked questions related to establishing a business at:

http://www.sos.state.tx.us/corp/generalfaqs.shtml

To set up your business with telecommunication and utility services, this website provides a listing of service providers:

http://www.austinchamber.com/do-business/greater-austin/greater-austinprofile/telecomm-utilities.php

# 2.2: Tax Structure

The Federal Government requires your business to pay federal taxes. To establish your business' tax responsibilities, your company must obtain an Employer's Identification Number (EIN) from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

You may apply online for your business' EIN by visiting the following link:

http://www.irs.gov/businesses/small/article/0,,id=102767,00.html

Texas has a low tax burden on businesses. There is no corporate and no individual income tax in Texas. For more information on Texas tax requirements visit:

http://www.business.texasonline.com/guide/texastaxes.jsp?lang=en

#### 2.2.A: Margins Tax

Texas has replaced its franchise tax with a Margins Tax. The Margins Tax is a tax of 1% on gross receipts less compensation or cost of goods sold. (Retailers and wholesalers have a rate of 0.5%) Sole proprietorships and general partnerships are exempt from the margins tax. Businesses with revenue under \$300,000 are also exempt. For more information regarding the new Margins Tax, and how it specifically affects your business, please visit:

http://www.cpa.state.tx.us/taxinfo/franchise/index.html

#### 2.2.B: Property Tax

Texas has no property tax at the state level. Local governments and special taxing districts levy taxes on real and tangible personal property. All property is appraised at full market value and assessed on 100% of appraised value. The total tax rate is the sum of all taxing units including cities, counties, schools and special districts.

Local governments have the option to exempt goods in transit, or "freeport goods", from ad valorem taxation. Freeport goods are inventories acquired or brought into the state by businesses and held for no more than 175 days before being shipped out of the state.

Austin and other local governments may offer qualifying businesses an abatement of the local ad valorem taxes on real and personal property for up to ten years.

In Austin, the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and the City of Austin's Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office work together to determine if a particular business may be a candidate for an abatement approval.

General property tax questions may be emailed to the Texas Comptroller at: <a href="mailto:ptd.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us">ptd.cpa@cpa.state.tx.us</a>

#### 2.2.C: Sales and Use Tax

The state levies a sales and use tax of 6.25 percent on sales of tangible personal property and certain services. Additionally, cities, counties and transit authorities may add to the rate for a combined state and local rate of 8.25 percent.

Sales and use tax exemptions are offered on machinery and equipment used in the manufacturing process and on natural gas and electricity when sold to commercial businesses that are "predominately" manufacturing companies.

http://www.cpa.state.tx.us/taxinfo/sales/index.html

For more information, see the Sales & Use Tax Refunds under the Business Incentives section of this guide.

#### 2.2.D: Payroll Tax

#### **Unemployment Insurance**

Businesses that employ one or more individuals may be subject to unemployment tax. New employers will pay 2.7 percent on the first \$9,000 of wages per employee. A minimum of six quarters is required to obtain an experience rating. For more information, visit:

http://www.twc.state.tx.us/ui/bnfts/employerinfo.html

For more information regarding taxes:

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Post Office Box 13528, Capitol Station Austin, Texas 78711-3528 877/662-8375 http://www.cpa.state.tx.us/taxes/

For more information on what you can expect when the taxman comes a-knocking on your door, contact your County Tax Assessor-Collector at:

http://www.austin-chamber.org/LiveWork/MoveToAustin/Taxes.html

### 2.3: Labor Issues

#### 2.3.A: Business Employer Requirements

The final step in starting a business is determining the federal and state employer requirements. As an employer, you have labor, safety, and tax obligations.

http://www.texasonline.com/portal/tol/en/bus/4

The following sections detail the labor, safety, access, and new hire reporting regulations administered by federal and state agencies.

#### 2.3.A.i: New Hire Requirements

In accordance with the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, all Texas employers are required to report certain information on newly hired and rehired employees to the State Directory of New Hires. To receive an employee packet from the Texas Workforce Commission, contact:

Texas Employer New Hire Reporting Operations Center P.O. Box 149224 Austin, Texas 78714-9224 888/TEX-HIRE (888/839-4473)

#### 2.3.A.ii: Apprenticeship Training Requirements

Standards for apprenticeship training programs in Texas follow guidelines set forth by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training. Specific details on these programs may be obtained by contacting:

Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training U.S. Department of Labor 525 Griffin Street, Suite 628 Dallas, Texas 75202 214/767-9263

#### 2.3.A.iii: Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) provides protection for people with disabilities in the areas of employment, public services, transportation, accommodation and telecommunications. For general assistance regarding how the federal ADA standards apply to your business, contact:

Office on the Americans with Disabilities Act: Civil Rights Division U.S. Department of Justice P.O. Box 66738

Washington, DC 20035 800/514-0301 or 800/514-0383 (TDD)

For specific information on the Americans with Disabilities Act's employment requirements, contact:

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission 1801 L Street N W Washington, D.C. 20507 800/669-4000 or 800/669-6820 (TDD)

For specific information on ADA telecommunications requirements, contact:

Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street N W Washington, D.C. 20554 202/418-0600 or 202/418-7233 (TDD)

For information regarding ADA requirements for accessible design in new construction and alterations, contact:

U.S. Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board 1331 F Street N W, Suite 1000 Washington, DC 20004 800/872-2253 or 800/993-2822 (TDD)

For information regarding ADA requirements for transportation services, contact:

U.S. Department of Transportation 400 Seventh Street SW Washington, DC 20590 888/446-4511 or 800/877-8339 (TDD) http://www.dot.gov/

The State of Texas also has requirements related to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act. For information and technical assistance on the state disability policy information, disability statistics and local disability resources, contact:

Texas Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities P.O. Box 12428 Austin, Texas 78711 512/463-5739 or 512/463-5746 (TDD)

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation reviews construction documents for the construction or substantial renovation, modification, or alteration of buildings or facilities defined as public or commercial accommodations for architectural barriers. This review is

mandated through the Americans with Disabilities Act. For additional information on architectural barriers, contact:

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation E.O. Thompson State Office Building P.O. Box 12157 Austin, Texas 78711 512/463-3211 or 800/803-9202

#### 2.3.A.iv: Equal Employment Requirements

Federal and state laws prohibit employment discrimination. The United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), Human Rights Division enforce fair employment laws which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, disability, age, or national origin.

All employers with 15 or more employees engaged in an industry affecting commerce are prohibited from denying equal employment opportunities. The EEOC promotes voluntary programs that allow employers to implement equal employment opportunity programs within their businesses.

For more information regarding federal equal employment requirements, contact:

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission San Antonio District Office 5410 Fredericksburg Road, Suite 200 Mockingbird Plaza, Plaza II San Antonio, Texas 78229 210/281-7600 or 210/229-4858

The TWC, Human Rights Division investigates employment complaints in Texas. For information regarding state equal employment requirements, contact:

Texas Workforce Commission, Human Rights Division 101 East 15th Street Austin, Texas 78778 512/463-3222

#### 2.3.A.v: Wage and Labor Requirements

For information on federal minimum wage laws, overtime and other questions regarding wages and hours, contact:

San Antonio District Office US Dept. of Labor Wage & Hour Division Northchase 1 Office Building 10127 Morocco, Suite 140 San Antonio, TX 78216 (210) 308-4515 1-866-4-USWAGE (1-866-487-9243)

The Texas Workforce Commission investigates and notifies county and/or district attorneys regarding all labor law violations within Texas. The Labor Law Department enforces state and federal labor laws. State statute examples include the Pay Day and Child Labor laws.

The Texas Workforce Commission publishes a general information packet for employers. For a copy, contact:

Employer's Representative Texas Workforce Commission 101 East 15th Street Austin, Texas 78778 512/463-2826 or 800/832-9394

To view a copy of the Texas Workforce Commission's publication, *ESPECIALLY FOR TEXAS EMPLOYERS* visit:

http://www.twc.state.tx.us/news/efte/tocmain.html

For answers to questions which your employees may have, please contact:

Labor's Representative Texas Workforce Commission 101 East 15th Street Austin, Texas 78778 512/463-2829 or 800/832-2829

#### 2.3.A.vi: Workers' Compensation Insurance Requirements

The Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation regulates the delivery of workers' compensation benefits to injured workers and to eligible family members of employees who die while performing their duties. Benefits are paid by workers' compensation insurance companies, by employers certified to self-insure, or by self-insured governmental entities.

The Texas Department of Insurance publishes a rate guide to assist employers in comparison shopping for worker' compensation and employers' liability insurance in Texas.

http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/regulation/rcomp.html

Texas Department of Insurance 333 Guadalupe Austin, Texas 78701 512/322-3493

Workers' compensation is not mandatory in Texas. The Texas Workers' Compensation Commission publishes a guide to new laws, a quarterly newsletter, and an informational brochure for employers. These documents allow employers to become more familiar with basic Texas workers' compensation requirements. For more information on workers' compensation, contact:

Texas Department of Insurance Division of Workers' Compensation 7551 Metro Center Drive, Suite 100 Austin, Texas 78744-1609 512/804-4000 www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc

#### 2.3.A.vii: Safety Requirements

The Occupational Safety and Health Consultations (OSHCON) program is administered by the Texas Department of Insurance, Department of Workers' Compensation. Free on-site safety and health inspections are available to alert employers of possible federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) violations.

Employers with fewer than 150 employees are able to submit to a free inspection. If the employer is found to have met the federal requirements during the free inspection, then the employer will be exempt from a scheduled inspection for 12 months.

For more information regarding state occupational safety and health requirements, contact:

OSHCON Texas Department of Insurance Division of Workers' Compensation 7551 Metro Center Drive, Ste. 100 Austin, Texas 78744 512/804-4636 http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/wc/safety/oshcon.html

For information regarding federal occupational safety requirements, contact:

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) U.S. Department of Labor, Regional Office 525 Griffin Street, Room 602 Dallas, Texas 75202 214/767-4731 http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/index.html

#### 2.3.A.viii: Labor Poster Requirements

The following federal and state labor posters must be posted at a place of business. Please contact the agency indicated to request copies for posting.

"Federal Minimum Wage" and "Employee Polygraph Protection Act" U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division 512/888-3520

"Occupational Safety and Health Administration Notice" U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration 214/767-4731

"Equal Employment Opportunity is the Law" U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission 210/229-4810

"Texas Unemployment Compensation Act" and "Schedule of Paydays" Texas Workforce Commission 512/463-2747

"The Law in Texas" (Optional Poster) Texas Workforce Commission, Human Rights Division 512/437-3450

#### 2.3.A.ix: Additional Labor Law Resources

U.S. Department of Labor's summary of major laws is available at:

http://www.dol.gov/opa/aboutdol/lawsprog.htm

U.S. Department of Labor eLaws:

http://www.dol.gov/elaws/

### 2.3.B: Employment Resources

Austin's highly-skilled workforce is one of the greatest assets in our community for new businesses. This section can help you find the talent you need for your new business. See the Business Training section of this guide for information about workforce training opportunities.

#### 2.3.B.i.:Staffing Services

#### **General Staffing:**

Horizon Staffing Services 13706 Research Blvd, Suite 209 Austin, TX 78050 512-250-2959 www.horizonstaff.com

Austin Staffing 314 E. Highland Mall Blvd Suite 411 Austin, Texas 78752 512-647-8233 http://www.austinstaffing.net

Express Employment Professionals 314 Highland Mall Blvd Suite 115 Austin, TX 78752 512-453-8833 http://austintxpeakperformers.expresspros.com

Frontline Source Group 901 S. Mopac Frwy Suite 300 Austin, TX 78746 512-328-5627 http://www.frontlinesourcegroup.com/austin.htm

Career Consultant Staffing Services 7320 Mopac, #400 Austin, TX 78731 512-346-6660 http://www.careeraustin.com

#### **International Staffing:**

Alliance Abroad, INC. 1221 S. Mopac Expy, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78746 512-457-8062 http://www.allianceabroad.com

#### **Professional Staffing:**

Robert Half International 98 San Jacinto Blvd Austin, TX 78701 512-499-0705 www.rhi.com

#### **Executive Staffing:**

Johnson & Associates 8303 Tecumseh Dr. Austin, TX 78753 512.339.9000 johnson@JAToday.com http://www.jatoday.com/

Lehman Associates 1301 W. 25th St., STE. 500 Austin, Texas 78705 512-478-1131 http://www.lehmanassociates.com

CSI Executive Search 9600 Great Hills Trail #150w, Austin, TX 78759 512-301-5503 http://www.csi-executivesearch.com/

#### Military Veteran Staffing:

Orion International Consulting 912 South Capital of Texas Highway, Ste 220 West Lake Hills, TX 78746 (512) 327-7111 http://www.orioninternational.com/employers.aspx

#### 2.3.B.ii.: Job Vacancy Listings

Austin's daily newspaper, the Austin American-Statesman, offers job classified listings online and in print:

http://www.statesman.com/hotjobs/content/hotjobs/emp/post-a-job.html

The Austin Business Journal offers job listings that can be viewed by the entire Business Journal network:

http://bizjournals.ontargetjobs.com/\_jobposting.asp

The State of Texas provides the free Work in Texas job portal for employers and job seekers:

https://wit.twc.state.tx.us/WORKINTEXAS/wtx?pageid=EV\_LOGON&lang=en

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce has created the Austin Jobs Portal. High tech and emerging industry companies may post their employment opportunities at:

http://www.austinchamber.com/do-business/technology-partnership/tech-jobportal.php

# 2.3. C: Foreign Workers

#### 2.3.C.i: Overview of Common Business-Related Visas

The most commonly issued business-related visa is the **B-1/B-2 nonimmigrant visa**, which allows for short term, temporary entries into the U.S. for visitors who seek to enter for business or leisure purposes. B-1/B-2 nonimmigrant visitors may have dependants accompany them to the U.S. under B-2 classification. The B-1/B-2 nonimmigrant visa enables visitors to apply for admission to the U.S. under B-1 classification for the purpose of engaging in legitimate business activities, which may include: negotiating contracts, consulting with business associates, litigation, participating in scientific, educational, professional or business conventions, conferences, or seminars, or undertaking independent research. B-1 classification does not afford employment authorization; therefore, activities must be limited to bona fide business visitor activities and cannot involve gainful employment.

Under certain circumstances, properly annotated B-1/B-2 business visitor visas may be issued for short term training or the short-term provision of professional services when the visitor will not be compensated in the U.S. In such cases, visitor visas may be issued when all circumstances of the visit are disclosed to, and approved by, the U.S. Consulate.

The **TN nonimmigrant category** is an appropriate alternative for Canadian and Mexican citizens seeking admission into the U.S. for employment in certain professional categories in accordance with the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). The NAFTA list of 63 professional classifications, for which TN status is available, includes, *but is not limited to*, the

following professional occupations: Engineer, Accountant, Architect, Computer Systems Analyst, Graphic Designer, Management Consultant, Scientific Technician/Technologist (including Engineering Technicians), and various occupations in the medical and allied health professions.

The **H-1B nonimmigrant category** is limited to aliens who work in a "specialty occupation," or to fashion models with "distinguished merit and ability." The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) limits the award of H-1B nonimmigrant visa numbers to a total of 65,000 each fiscal year. Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> each year, USCIS will accept H-1B nonimmigrant visa petitions seeking allocation of an H-1B visa number under the next Fiscal Year H-1B Quota for an H-1B employment start date of October 1<sup>st</sup> of the same year.

H-1B nonimmigrants may be admitted for up to three years and may receive extensions of status, but generally not beyond six years, unless the H-1B nonimmigrant has reached an advanced stage in the U.S. Lawful Permanent Resident process.

The **H-2B nonimmigrant category** is generally available for nonimmigrants who are coming temporarily to the U.S. to perform temporary or seasonal, non-agricultural service or labor.

The prospective employer must recruit for U.S. workers, attest to payment of the prevailing wage and obtain DOL certification prior to filing an H-2B petition. Generally, the prospective employer's need for the services or labor may be for a one-time occurrence, a seasonal need, a peakload need, or an intermittent need.

H-2B visas are limited to an annual quota of 66,000, which is further divided into fall and spring quotas of 33,000 per season. Admission is generally limited to the duration of the temporary need, which is ordinarily 10 months or less.

The **H-3 nonimmigrant category** may be used for the temporary training of qualified foreign nationals in the U.S. pursuant to a detailed, established training program. The training should further the trainee's career abroad and should not be used to fill positions for which U.S. workers are normally recruited.

The **L-1 nonimmigrant category** is for "intracompany transferees" who have worked continuously with a company abroad for at least a year within the preceding three years and are being transferred to the U.S. to continue working with an affiliate, parent, subsidiary or branch office of the company in the U.S. Employment must have been and must continue to be in a managerial, executive, or specialized knowledge capacity.

The E-1 and E-2 nonimmigrant Treaty Trader and Treaty Investor categories may be used for employing qualified personnel or investors with companies in the U.S. where the company maintains the nationality of a country with which the U.S. has entered into an applicable trade or investment treaty. Generally, the prospective investor or employee must be coming to engage in employment with the company as an executive, supervisory or essential employee with the company in order to qualify and must be of the same treaty nationality as the ownership of the company. The **E-3 nonimmigrant category** is available for Australian citizens who will be employed in the U.S. in a specialty occupation. The requirements for this category are similar to those for the H-1B category. Initial admission is limited to 2 years but may be extended. Only 10,500 E-3 visas may be issued each year.

The **O-1 Alien of Extraordinary Ability category** is designed for those individuals who have reached the pinnacle of their fields of endeavor and have sustained national or international acclaim for their extraordinary achievements. Initial admissions are limited to the length of the event or 3 years but may be extended. There is no numerical limit on this classification.

For service center processing information, links to forms for processing at service centers, frequently asked questions, and links to applicable laws and regulations, visit:

#### www.uscis.gov

For consular processing information, links to forms for processing abroad, frequently requested visa information and links to U.S. Embassies and Consulates, visit:

http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa\_1750.html

Foreign Workers section information provided by:

Robert F. Loughran, Esquire Managing Shareholder FosterQuan, LLP 100 Congress, Suite 1500 Austin, TX 78701 512/478-9475 rloughran@fosterquan.com www.fosterquan.com

# **3: How to Import and Export**

# 3.1: Importing

An importing company should contact the United States Customs Office (<u>http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/trade/basic\_trade/</u>), to determine whether a particular product may be imported under U.S. law. Customs will also provide the process to follow when importing the desired goods. Before contacting Customs, be prepared to answer several questions including:

- What is the product or commodity that you want to import?
- What is the quantity of the specific product or commodity to be imported?
- What is the imported product/commodity content?
- From which country do you intend to the product/commodity?
- Is the product/commodity a sales sample?

Questions you should ask U.S. Customs when calling:

• Ask for the Import Specialist for the particular product/commodity you want to import into the U.S.

• Ask if there are any import duties on this product, or if this specific product/commodity is duty free.

• Ask if there are any quotas for the product/commodity you are importing into the U.S.

• Ask the U.S. Customs Office to mail you any information related to importing into the U.S.

*Importing into the United States*, a suggested reference guide, outlines rules and regulations for clearing incoming goods through U.S. Customs. This importing guide lists labeling requirements and other essential information, including a list of prohibited goods. A free copy of the guide is available on the internet at:

http://www.cbp.gov/linkhandler/cgov/newsroom/publications/trade/iius.ctt/iius.pdf

To obtain a printed version, contact:

U.S. Government Printing Office Washington, D.C. 202/512-0132

Import Assistance is provided by the International Trade Center UTSA, at 210/458-2470 or 512/517-8873. Check with City of Austin, International Program for information on when the next Introduction to Import class will be held, 512/974-6416.

#### 3.1.A: Import License

No firm or individual is required to obtain from the state or federal government a license or permit to import. U.S. Customs clearance requires either a corporate tax id or a social security number. However some items do require a validated Import Certificate or permission from specific government agencies prior to importing. The U.S. Customs Service will help you identify if you meet this requirement. To locate the nearest customs office, check the blue pages of the telephone directory under "Department of Homeland Security" or "Customs and Border Protection," or visit:

http://www.customs.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/cmcs/

For further assistance, you may contact:

U.S. Customs Austin, TX 512/530-3053

#### 3.1.B: Import Tariffs

The United States International Trade Commission, Interactive Tariff and Trade Data Website (<u>http://www.dataweb.usitc.gov/</u>) offers direct access to trade data and customized reports. Description codes for accessing data include:

- HTS (Harmonized Tariff System)
- SIC (Standard Industry Code)\* Available only through 1997.
- SITC (Standard Industry Tariff Code)
- NAICS (North American Industry Code System)

For answers to specific questions related to import duties, and requirements for final import clearance, contact:

U.S. Customs Service Dallas, TX 972/574-2170

Duty rates are published in the "*Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States Annotated (HTSA)*," which is available from:

U.S. Government Printing Office Washington, D.C. 202/512-0132

A user-friendly HTS is available on the Internet at: <u>http://www.usitc.gov/tata/index.htm</u>

#### 3.1.C: Import Logistics

A Customs House Broker (CHB) acts as your agent and provides professional advice on technical requirements of importing, preparing and filing all entry documents, obtaining necessary bonds, depositing import duties, securing release of products and arranging delivery to your address. It may be advantageous to obtain a licensed customs house broker when the imported value is 400 USD or more. Formal import entry is required for shipments with an import value above 2,000 USD.

A CHB knows entry requirements and is able to calculate the estimated landed costs based on incoming proforma invoices or other import forms or quotations. CHB's are listed in the local telephone directory under "Customs House Broker" and may also be found on the Internet. The CHB selected should have experience importing the products you intend to import. For assistance in locating a CHB, you may consider visiting the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America website at: <u>http://ncbfaa.org/</u>

# 3.2: Exporting

The U.S. Department of Commerce provides Texas companies with access to all International Trade Administration programs and services through their seven Export Assistance Centers in Texas. <u>http://export.gov/eac/index.asp</u>

The United States Commercial Service will provide customized end-to-end business solutions and in-depth consulting and advocacy to help you. Trade specialists work directly with a team of experts overseas in providing your business with important information and advice. This information includes how to develop an effective export strategy, locate export financing, determine the best markets for your product or service, evaluate international competitors, finding foreign partners and more. For more information, visit the website at:

#### http://trade.gov/cs/

For Central Texas companies, your point of contact is:

Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center Phone: 512/916-5939 or 936-0039 Email: <u>Austin.office.box@trade.gov</u> <u>http://export.gov/texas/austin/</u>

Helpful websites for exporting information include: <u>http://www.export.gov/</u>

The "Basic Guide to Exporting" may be found at:

http://www.export.gov/basicguide/

The City of Austin's International Economic Development Program and the Austin Export Assistance Center provide exporting courses for local businesses. For more information about this International Trade Education Series call 512/974-6416.

The International Trade Center UTSA provides free export consulting, market research and training to qualified small and medium-size companies. For more information, call 210/458-2470.

#### 3.2.A: Export Market Potential and Marketing Research

By Karen C. Parker Austin Export Assistance Center/U.S. Department of Commerce

Sure, your firm may begin to export without conducting any market research if it receives unsolicited orders and emails from abroad. Although this type of selling is valuable, your company may discover even more promising markets by conducting a systemic search. When your company makes the commitment to do business internationally, market research incorporated within a clear international plan targets your best overseas markets. Market research will assist your firm identify sales potential and may decrease the possibility of serious and expensive problems in the long run.

Market research encompasses all methods that a company uses to determine which foreign markets have the best potential for its products. Results of this research inform the firm of the largest markets for its product, the fastest growing markets, market trends and outlook, market conditions and practices and competitive firms and products. Secondary market research is less expensive than primary, helps a company focus its marketing efforts and there is tons of reliable information on the web. This systemic step-by-step approach is available in the Basic Guide to Exporting <u>http://www.export.gov/basicguide/</u>

Step One: Screen potential markets

A: Obtain product export statistics.

- Identify your product's Schedule B or Harmonized Code at <u>http://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/schedules/b/index.html</u>
- Foreign trade statistics by Harmonized System Classification numbers available from the Census Bureau at <u>www.usatradeonline.gov</u> -- information available by country of ultimate destination or dollar value, names of exporters not included.
- Obtain other market information from <u>http://tse.export.gov/TSE/TSEhome.aspx</u>
- Other resources include foreign government statistical sites or industry associations.

B: Identify fastest growing markets

- Compare 3-5 year rate-of-growth for product.
- Check country stability, see Country Commercial Guides.
- Find smaller markets, may have fewer competitors, see Best Market reports.
- Identify this secondary research information at this database: <u>http://www.buyusainfo.net/adsearch.cfm?search\_type=int&loadnav=no</u>

- C: Target countries for expansion efforts
  - Examine your research results.
  - Target the most logical 3-5 markets to initially tackle.
  - Identify second tier of 3-5 countries for later evaluation.

Step Two: Assess target markets

- A: Examine trends that influence demand.
  - Country information and factors affecting channels of distribution, business travel and practices, available from the Country Commercial Guides.
  - Competitive sources available from Industry Sector Analysis and International Market Insights reports.
    - http://www.buyusainfo.net/adsearch.cfm?search\_type=int&loadnav=no
  - Supplement with association and industry reports, and reliable research from websites.
- B: Identify foreign barriers
  - Local current tariffs at <a href="http://www.export.gov/logistics/exp\_001015.asp">http://www.export.gov/logistics/exp\_001015.asp</a>.
  - Check Non Tariff Barriers in the Country Commercial Guides.
  - Check export controls, Denied Parties and Entities Lists from the Bureau of Industry and Security <a href="http://www.bis.doc.gov/complianceandenforcement/liststocheck.htm">http://www.bis.doc.gov/complianceandenforcement/liststocheck.htm</a>
  - Make sure you're not looking at any embargoed countries, as identified by the Office of Foreign Asset Control at <u>http://www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/</u>
- C: Identify incentives
  - Check with local commercial banks
  - Export-Import Bank working capital and loan guarantees at <u>www.exim.gov</u>
  - Small Business Administration working capital or Export Express at <u>www.sba.gov</u>
  - The Overseas Private Investment Corp (OPIC) investment incentives at <u>www.opic.gov</u>
  - Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) Commodity Credit Corporation at <u>www.fas.usda.gov</u>
  - International Finance Corporation at <u>www.ifc.org</u>
  - Trade Development Agency at <u>www.tda.gov</u>

#### Step Three: Conclusion

#### A: Apply knowledge

- Apply internal resources with management commitment to determine level of effort.
- Know your direction and establish an international plan with a budget to penetrate new international markets.
- Narrow the potential markets to a focused customer or partner search; customize product and literature to culture.
- Participate in advertising your product internationally, such as involvement in trade shows, multi state catalog events, promotional magazines and web exposure.
- Understand that international expansion takes time and patience.

Now that you have had an opportunity to examine some of the factors involved in an exporting and marketing plan, you may choose to seek advice or assistance. Advice and assistance are available to your company at little or no cost from the Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center, 512/916-5939.

#### 3.2.B: Export Licensing

While most export transactions do not require specific approval in the form of licenses from the U.S. Government, here are some regulations regarding the product, destination, end-use and end-user which may require an export license before the shipment can be made. Regulations regarding all exports must be followed.

For further guidance visit:

http://www.export.gov/regulation/index.asp

Federal agencies involved in export licensing include:

Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS):

BIS regulates "dual-use" - items that have both commercial and military or proliferation applications – and some regular commercial items. http://www.bis.doc.gov/licensing/exportingbasics.htm

Department of State, Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DTC): Licenses defense services and defense (munitions) articles. <u>http://www.pmddtc.state.gov/</u>

Department of the Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC): OFAC administers and enforces economic and trade sanctions against targeted foreign countries. <u>http://www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/</u>

For a list of all these United States government departments and other agencies with export control responsibilities visit: <u>http://www.bis.doc.gov/about/reslinks.htm</u>

Certain individuals and organizations are prohibited from receiving U.S. exports and others may only receive goods if they have been licensed. This includes items that do not normally require a license based on the Export Control Classification Number (ECCN) and Commerce Country Chart, or based on a U.S. Commerce Department EAR99 designation. All exporters MUST review the "Lists to Check" before making their export shipments: http://www.bis.doc.gov/complianceandenforcement/liststocheck.htm

The Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center is available to assist you with guidance on export licensing concerns, 512/916-5939.

## 3.3: International Finance

Financial standing is one component of a successful international business in the United States. Financial lenders in the United States gauge an entity's standing by examining its credit history and credit rating.

Accountants or business consultants will advise an international business on mitigating credit risk, increasing cash flow, profitability and establishing a strong credit rating.

#### 3.3.A: PUBLIC ENTITIES

**The Export-Import Bank of the United States (ExIm)** aids small and medium sized businesses with export financing of U.S. goods and services through various loan, guarantee, and insurance programs. Among these is the Working Capital Guarantee, which assists small businesses in obtaining capital to fund their export-related activities. The ExIm also offers Export Credit Insurance, and insurance coverage programs. To learn more about ExIm's financing programs call toll-free 800/565-EXIM, or contact:

ExIM Regional Office Houston, TX 281/721-0465 http://www.ExIm.gov

Small Business Administration (SBA) Export Working Capital Program provides shortterm working capital to exporters. The SBA has specific standards that must be met for a company to qualify for a loan. For more information visit: <u>http://www.sba.gov/content/export-loan-programs</u>

**Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC)** provides finance and insurance to support private American investment in other nations. OPIC helps U.S. businesses of all sizes invest and compete in more than 140 emerging markets and developing nations worldwide. Call 202/336-8799, or fax 202/408-9858. <u>http://www.opic.gov</u>

U.S. Trade and Development Agency (TDA) helps US companies pursue business opportunities overseas. Call 703/875-4357, or fax 703/875-4009. <u>http://www.tda.gov/</u>

#### 3.3.B: PRIVATE ENTITIES

**The World Bank Group** is one of the world's largest sources of development assistance, the World Bank Group brings a mix of finance and ideas to improve living conditions and eliminate poverty. The bank focuses on investing in people through health, education, poverty reduction, environmental protection, private business development, and reforms to create a stable macroeconomic environment. Call 202/477-1234, or fax 202/477-6391. http://www.worldbank.org/ The International Finance Corporation promotes sustainable private sector investment in developing countries as a way to reduce poverty and improve people's lives. http://www.ifc.org/

#### Other private entities include:

- Private Export Funding Corporation (PEFCO) http://www.pefco.com/,
- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) http://www.miga.org/,
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) <u>http://www.worldbank.org/icsid</u>,
- International Development Association (IDA) <u>http://www.worldbank.org/ida</u>,
- Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) <u>http://www.iadb.org/</u>

# 3.4: Logistics, Documentation and Distribution

Most companies work with an International Freight Forwarder (IFF) to assist them in the logistics of shipping their products internationally. IFF's are listed in the local telephone directory under "Freight Forwards," and may also be found on the Internet. Visit the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America at <u>http://ncbfaa.org/</u>

All export documentation must be precise and up to date. Slight discrepancies or omissions may prevent U.S. merchandise from being exported, result in U.S. firms not getting paid, or even result in the seizure of the exporter's goods by U.S. or foreign government Customs. Collection documents are subject to precise time limits and may not be honored by a bank if those documents are out of date. Much of the documentation is routine for freight forwarders or customs brokers acting on the firm's behalf, but the exporter is ultimately responsible for accuracy of the documentation. The documents to be used depend on both U.S. Government requirements and those imposed by the importing country.

For information on shipping documents that are commonly used in exporting, but vary by the country of destination, visit: <u>http://export.gov/logistics/eg\_main\_018121.asp</u>

Other resources for identifying your required documents could include:

**TRADE INFORMATION CENTER (TIC)** is a resource guide for information on all U.S. Federal Government export assistance programs. The TIC provides new-to-export and new-to-market firms with a single point of contact in the U.S. Government for counseling and assistance on industry-specific, country-specific, or anything at all having to do with international trade. Call the TIC toll-free at 800/872-8723.

# 3.4.A: Tariffs and Duties

Many exporters are concerned with the tariffs and duties that will be imposed on their products once they are delivered. Information on how to determine these duties is provided at: <u>http://export.gov/logistics/eg\_main\_018130.asp</u>

# 3.4.B: Foreign Trade Zones

Foreign trade zones (FTZs) are sites in or near a U.S. Customs port of entry where foreign and domestic merchandise is considered to be in international trade. Goods may be brought into a FTZ without formal customs entry requirements or without incurring customs duties or excise taxes unless and until they are further imported into the United States.

FTZs are intended to promote U.S. participation in trade and commerce by eliminating or reducing the unintended costs or obstacles associated with U.S. trade laws. Business operations that might be shifted to a foreign country are thereby encouraged to remain in Texas.

FTZ projects may be at one or multiple sites, a single building, all or a portion of an industrial park, at a deep-water port, or within an international airport. The largest available foreign trade zone in Austin is FTZ #183.

For more information regarding Austin's foreign trade zones, visit:

http://www.austinchamber.com/do-business/greater-austin/tax-incentives/foreigntrade.php

#### 3.4.B.i: Benefits

Benefits for businesses using FTZs include:

- Duty Exemption. No duties on or quota charges on re-exports.
- Duty Deferral. Customs duties and federal excise tax deferred on imports.
- Inverted Tariff. In situations where zone manufacturing results in a finished product that has a lower duty rate than the rates on foreign inputs (inverted tariff), the finished products may be entered at the duty rate that applies to its condition as it leaves the zone -- subject to public interest considerations.
- Logistical. Companies using FTZ procedures may have access to streamlined customs procedures (e.g. "weekly entry" or "direct delivery").
- Other. Foreign goods and domestic goods held for export are exempt from state/local inventory taxes. FTZ status may also make a site eligible for state/local benefits which are unrelated to the FTZ Act.

Benefits for the public from FTZs include:

- Public Service. Providing special customs procedures to help firms conduct international trade related operations in competition with foreign plants.
- Business Retention. Helping attract offshore activity and encourage retention of domestic activity.
- Jobs. Helping create employment opportunities.

- Growth. Assisting state and local economic development efforts.
- Trade and Globalization. Helping facilitate and expedite international trade.

The U.S. Department of Commerce Foreign Trade Zones Board website is available at:

http://ia.ita.doc.gov/ftzpage

#### **4: Business Incentives**

The Texas Governor's Economic Development and Tourism Division administer two programs which spur economic growth in Texas – the Emerging Technology and the Enterprise Zone Programs. The Texas Department of Agriculture administers three programs – the Rural Municipal Finance Program and the Texas Capital Funds' Infrastructure and Real Estate Development Programs.

# 4.1: Emerging Technology Fund Program

Texas established a 165 million USD Texas Emerging Technology Fund to create jobs and grow the economy. The ETF encourages the development and commercialization of new technologies. This program involves partnerships between the state, the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce, the City of Austin, institutions of higher education, and private industry to focus greater attention on the research, development and commercialization of emerging technology.

The Emerging Technology Fund Program is dedicated to three areas:

- Regional Centers of Innovation and Commercialization (RCICs). These centers are concentrated with applied R&D activities, incubators (including specialized workforce training) for startup firms and encourage expansion of existing companies through the commercialization of their new technological developments.
- 2) Matching grant funds. Applied technology research and development projects that accelerate commercialization into production and have a demonstrated ability to receive or have received federal grants or non-state grants may apply for matching dollars from the Emerging Technology Fund. Examples of grants include: Small Business Innovation Research grants, or Small Business Technology Transfer grants.
3) Attracting research talent. Help Texas public universities attract highly renowned research teams from other universities and institutions.

For more information regarding the application process or funding, please contact:

Texas Emerging Technology Fund P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711 512/463-2000 http://governor.state.tx.us/ecodev/etf

### 4.2: Texas Enterprise Zone Program

A community with less than 250,000 in population may have up to four enterprise projects. Austin, and other communities with populations larger than 250,000, may have up to six enterprise projects. If a community designates a business as an enterprise project, and if that enterprise project designation is also approved by the state, the business may be eligible for the following incentive:

### 4.2.A: State Sales and Use Tax refunds

An enterprise project is eligible for a refund of state sales and use taxes paid for building materials, machinery and equipment, electricity and natural gas purchased and consumed in the normal course of business. Depending on the business' investment amount and number of jobs created/retained, the refund may be an amount ranging from a minimum of 2,500 USD per job to a maximum of 7,500 USD per job.

Receipts for purchases of building materials, machinery and equipment, and payroll information are required to be retained as part of the audit process. All contracts should keep detailed records which separate the costs for building materials and/or equipment from the costs of labor and services.

The refund for sales and use tax must be for all eligible items used at the approved business site.

For more information, visit:

Texas Enterprise Fund P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711 800/843-5789 <u>http://governor.state.tx.us/priorities/economy/investing\_for\_growth/texas\_enterp\_rise\_fund/</u>

### 4.3: Rural Economic Development Incentives

The Texas Department of Agriculture has a Rural Economic Development Division which administers the following three programs:

### 4.3.A: Rural Municipal Finance Program

The Texas Department of Agriculture created the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority (TAFA) in 1987. TAFA established the Rural Municipal Finance Program to stimulate economic activity in rural Texas.

This loan program is designed for eligible applicants located within rural areas of the state that provide significant benefits for the rural area, and provide evidence of ability to repay the commitments. Applicants may include: city and county governments; economic development corporations; hospital districts; rail districts; utility districts; special districts; agricultural districts; and private water and wastewater corporations.

Rural Municipal Finance Program P.O. Box 12847 Austin, TX 78711 877/428-7848 http://www.agr.state.tx.us/agr/program\_render/0,1987,1848\_6058\_0\_0,00.html ?channelld=6058

### 4.3.B: Texas Capital Fund: Infrastructure Program

The Texas Capital Fund Infrastructure Program is an economic development tool designed to provide financial resources to non-entitlement communities. Funds from this program may be utilized for public infrastructure (water, sewer, roads, etc.) needed to assist a business, which commits to create and/or retain permanent jobs (primarily for low and moderate-income persons).

### 4.3.C: Texas Capital Fund: Real Estate Development Program

The Texas Capital Fund Real Estate Development Program is designed to encourage business development and expansions located in non-entitlement communities. Funds must be used for real estate development (acquisitions, construction and/or rehabilitation) to assist a business, which commits to create and/or retain permanent jobs (primarily for low and moderate-income persons).

Total combined Texas Capital Fund participation from both the Infrastructure Program and the Real Estate Development Program may not exceed 750,000 USD.

Texas Capital Fund Program P.O. Box 12847 Austin, TX 78711 512/936-0281 http://www.agr.state.tx.us/agr/program\_render/0,1987,1848\_6050\_0\_0,00.html ?channelId=6050

# **5: Business Training**

# 5.1: Economic Development and Diversification

### In-State Tuition Incentive for Employees

The Economic Development and Diversification In-state Tuition incentive may be available to qualified businesses that are considering relocating or expanding their operations into Texas. The incentive allows employees and family members of a qualifying business to pay in-state tuition fees. Without this incentive designation, a student must reside in Texas for a 12-month period before becoming eligible to pay the tuition fees at the Texas resident rate.

Example of Austin companies which have obtained this incentive for their employees include: AnthroCare, Hewlett-Packard and State Farm Insurance. For more information on the eligibility criteria and process, visit:

http://www.collegefortexans.com/apps/financialaid/tofa2.cfm?ID=567

### 5.2: Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) Funds

### 5.2.A: Skills Development Fund

The Skills Development Fund program, administered by TWC, assists businesses and trade unions by financing the design and implementation of customized job training projects. This fund merges business needs and local customized training opportunities to increase the skills level and wages of the Greater Austin workforce.

### 5.2.A.i: Applying for Skills Development Funds

Businesses and trade unions must partner with an eligible applicant in order to be considered for Skills Development Fund grants. Eligible applicants are public community or technical

colleges, the Texas Engineering Extension Service or a community-based organization working in partnership with one of these institutions.

For more detailed information, please review the Proposal Submission Guidelines:

http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/sdfintro.html

### 5.2.B: Self-Sufficiency Fund

The Self-Sufficiency Fund Program, administered by TWC, assists businesses by designing, financing and implementing customized job training programs (in partnership with public community and technical colleges, or a higher education extension service, or community-based organizations) for the creation of new jobs and/or retraining an existing workforce. The Self-Sufficiency Fund's goal is to assist recipients of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Food Stamps, and Needy Parents to complete training, obtain employment and become independent of government financial assistance.

### 5.2.B.i: Applying for Self Sufficiency Funds

Businesses and trade unions must partner with an eligible applicant in order to be considered for Self-Sufficiency Fund grants. Eligible applicants are public community or technical colleges, the Texas Engineering Extension Service, or community-based organizations which the Internal Revenue Service has approved as a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

For more detailed information, please see the Proposal Submission Guidelines:

http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/funds/ssfintro.html

### 5.2.C: On-the-Job and Customized Training

On-the-Job Training (OJT) and Customized Training, administered by TWC, provide unique opportunities for participants who already possess some job-related skills and the knowledge to "learn as they earn". By participating in training as an employee, the participant not only acquires new skills and knowledge, but also receives the same wages and benefits as current employees in the same or similar positions. The employer benefits by being reimbursed for part of the participant's wages during the training period, while having the services of a full-time employee.

Customized Training further benefits an employer by tailoring a training program to the employer's specific needs. This is especially useful when introducing new technologies or procedures. Training may even be offered to current employees in order to upgrade their skills and knowledge.

As determined by the local workforce development board, eligible participants are those who have not been earning a self-sufficient wage. Eligible employers must commit to hiring and retaining participants who successfully complete their training programs. Employers who

have exhibited a pattern of not retaining participants are not allowed to continue participating in these types of training. The actual terms and duration of the training activities are formalized contractually through negotiations between the employer and the local program operator.

For more information on the services provided by Austin's local workforce development board, Workforce Solutions Capital Area please call 512/485-3790 or visit:

http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/index.php?option=com\_content&task=category&sectio nid=6&id=97

See also, the Labor Issues section of this Guide.

# **6:** Acknowledgements

Multiple sources have made this document possible, the majority of which have been acknowledged with a link to the official website of the organization providing the information. Several international stakeholder sources provided important background and other resources as well as plenty of patience in making this document a reality.

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salvador@usmexicoconsulting.com

www.usmexicoconsulting.com

International Business Development Specialists Organic Growth & Acquisitions; Effective & Comprehensive Business Consultancy to successfully plan, execute and operate your international business strategy in the US/Mexico region.

WaveMAX Corporation 4807 Spicewood Springs Road Building 2 Suite #106 Austin, TX 78759 Ph. 512-658-6048

www.wavemaxcorp.com involved in anything related to wireless or telecom industry

### **Chambers of Commerce**

Alhambra U.S. Chamber of Commerce 2400 Pearl Street Austin, TX 78705 www.alhambrauschamber.org

\*Capital City African American Chamber of Commerce 5407 N. IH 35 Austin, TX 78723 512-459-1181 Fax: 512-459-1183 admin@capcitychamber.org http://www.capcitychamber.org/

\*Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce 3432 Greystone Drive, Suite 202 Austin, TX 78731 512-407-8240 http://www.austinasianchamber.org

\*Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce 535 E. 5<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, TX 78701 512-478-9383 Fax: 512-478-6389 www.austinchamber.com/DoBusiness/index.html

Greater Austin Chinese Chamber of Commerce 13284 Pond Springs Rd, Suite 405 Austin, TX 78729 (512) 203-6941 <u>Receive99@hotmail.com</u> www.gaccc.org

\*Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 21-800 South IH35, Suite 260 Austin, TX 78704 512-476-7502 Fax: 512-476-6417 www.gahcc.org

Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce P.O. Box 10657 Austin, TX 78766 512-921-9431 office@sacctx.com www.sacctx.com/ Texas Turkish American Chamber of Commerce 12400 Amherst Dr. Suite 108 Austin, TX 78727 512-698-3889 http://www.ttacc.org

Texas Association of Mexican American Chambers of Commerce (TAMACC) 3000 South IH-35, Suite 305 Austin, TX 78704-6536 512-444-5727 Fax: 512- 444-4929 http://www.tamacc.org/

### City, State, and Federal Government Agencies

City of Austin International Economic Development Program P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767 512-974-6416 International Economic Development 512-974-6418 Sister Cities Inquiries Fax: 512-974-7825 http://austintexas.gov/international

Informs citizens about international activities, assists in integrating the region's industrial, financial, and commercial institutions into the world economy, and supports international activities including Austin's Sister Cities' exchanges

City of Austin Small & Minority Business Resources P.O. Box 1088 Austin, TX 78767 512-974-7677 Fax: 512-974-7601 http://www.austintexas.gov/department/small-andminority-business

Assists small, minority-owned and women-owned business enterprises

City of Austin Small Business Development Program (SBDP) 505 Barton Springs Road Austin, TX 78704 512-974-7800 Fax: 512-974-7740 http://www.austintexas.gov/department/small-

business-development-program

Fosters job creation and supports the growth of new and existing businesses by providing capacity building information, tools and resources.

Secretary of State P.O. Box 12887 Austin, TX 78711-2887 512-463-5600

#### http://www.sos.state.tx.us/

Provides a repository for official and business and commercial records, serves as senior advisor and liaison to the Governor for Texas Border and Mexican Affairs, and serves as Chief International Protocol Officer for Texas. Office of International Business/Office of the Governor State of Texas 211 E. 11<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, TX 78701 Mexico Office P.B. Paseo de la Reforma 325, P.B. Coll. Cuahutemoc Mexico City, Mexico 06500 (011) (5255) 5514-8100 *or* (011) (5255) 5514-9626 *or* Fax: (011) (5255) 5514-6628 *or* www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/ecodev/international/nafta

Promotes re-location to Texas to foreign companies and represents Texas business/economic development interests in Mexico; encouraging trade between Mexico and Texas

International Trade Center UTSA Institute for Economic Development 501 W. Cesar Chavez Blvd. San Antonio, TX 78201 Doug Smith, Assistant Director (210)-458-2470 Fax: 210-458-2491 Provides businesses with high-value trade consulting services, cutting-edge market research and innovative training programs

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Lyndon B. Johnson State Office Building 111 East 17th Street Austin, TX 78774 <u>http://www.window.state.tx.us/</u> *Sales Tax exemption contract for exports* 

Texas Department of Agriculture 1700 N. Congress, 11th Floor Austin, TX 78701 P.O. Box 12847 Austin, TX 78711 512-463-7476 1-800-835-5832 Fax: 1-888-223-8861

http://www.agr.state.tx.us/agr/index/

Helps Texas agricultural companies participate in international events worldwide

Texas Department of Insurance 333 Guadalupe, Austin, TX 78701 512-463-6169 1-800-578-4677 PIO@tdi.state.tx.us http://www.tdi.state.tx.us/ Protects insurance consumers

Texas General Land Office 1700 N. Congress Ave., Suite 935 Austin, TX 78701 512-463-5001 1-800-998-4456

<u>www.glo.state.tx.us/</u> Manages public domain by collecting and keeping records, provides maps and surveys and issues land titles

\*Texas Workforce Commission 101 E 15th St Austin, TX 78778 512-475-2571 www.twc.state.tx.us/ Texas labor issues

Austin U.S. Export Assistance Center U.S. Dept. of Commerce 221 E. 11th St., 4th Floor Austin, TX 78701 512-916-5940

#### www.export.gov/texas/austin

Helps companies assess the export potential of products, identify markets and research, and locate potential overseas partners; provide resources for partnering global expansion

Economic Development Administration U.S. Dept. of Commerce 504 Lavaca Street Suite 1100 Austin, TX 78701-2858 512-381-8144 Fax: 512-381-8177 www.eda.gov/

Assists in generating jobs, helps retain existing jobs, and stimulate industrial and commercial growth in economically distressed areas of the United States Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Texas State SBDC Main Office: Round Rock 1555 University Blvd, Suite 265 Round Rock, TX 78664 Satellite Office: Austin 314 E. Highland Mall Blvd., Suite 304 Austin, TX 78752 512-716-41-800 SBDC@txstate.edu www.business.txstate.edu/sbdc/ Provides counseling for startup businesses

SCORE Counselors to America's Small Business 5524 Bee Caves Rd, Bldg M Austin, TX 78746 512-928-2425 Fax: 512-674-3760 info@scoreaustin.org www.scoreaustin.org Provides counseling for startup businesses

U.S. Customs-Port of Entry 3600 Presidential Blvd., Suite 111 Austin, TX 78719 512-530-3053 Fax: 512-530-3055

www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/contacts/ports/tx/5506.xml Import requirements – clearing goods to and from foreign markets

### **Construction**

RMT/Jones & Neuse, Inc. 805 Las Cimas Parkway Suite 300 Austin, TX 78746 512-327-9840 Fax: 512-327-6163 <u>www.rmtinc.com</u> Engineering and environmental consulting

Parsons Engineering Science Inc. 1-8000 Centre Park Dr., Suite 200 Austin, TX 78754 512-719-6000 Fax: 512-719-6099 www.parsons.com

Global engineering and construction services

### **Consulates**

Honorary Consul General of Albania 10 Waterway Court Woodlands, TX 77380-2641 281-548-4740 Fax: 281-754-4009

Consul General of Angola 3040 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 780 Houston, TX 77056 713-212-3840 Fax: 713-212-3841 http://angolaconsulate-tx.org/

Consul General of Argentina 3050 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1625 Houston, TX 77056 713-871-8935 Fax: 713-871-0639

Honorary Consul General of Australia 4623 Feagan Street Houston, TX 77007 713-782-6009 Fax: 713-862-8364

Honorary Consul General of Austria 1701 Hermann Dr., Suite 1505 Houston, TX 77004 713-723-9929 Fax: 713-526-4592

Honorary Consul General of Bangladesh 35 N. Wynden Dr. Houston, TX 77056 713-621-8462 Fax: 713-622-3964

Honorary Consul General of Barbados 3027 Sleepy Hollow Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77479 832-725-5566

Honorary Consul General of Belgium 106 South St. Marys, Suite 200 San Antonio, TX 78205 210-271-8820 Fax: 210-225-1951 Honorary Consul General of Belize 7101 Breen Houston, TX 77086 713-999-4484

Honorary Consul General of Bolivia 800 Wilcrest UN, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77042 713-977-2344 Fax: 713-977-2362

Honorary Consul General of Botswana 10000 Memorial Dr., Suite 400 Houston, TX 77024 713-680-1155 Fax: 713-680-8055

Consul General of Brazil 1233 West Loop South, Suite 1150 Houston, TX 77027 713-961-3063 Fax: 713-961-3070 http://www.brazilhouston.org/

Honorary Consul General of Cameroon 1319 Gamma Street Crosby, TX 77532 713-499-3502

Honorary Consul General of Canada 106 South St. Mary's, Suite 800 San Antonio, TX 78205 210-299-3525

Consul General of Chile 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1130 Houston, TX 77056 713-963-9066 Fax: 713-961-3910

Consul General of China 3417 Montrose Boulevard Houston, TX 77006 713-520-1462 Fax: 713-521-3064 http://www.chinahouston.org/office.htm

Consul General of Colombia 5851 San Felipe UN, Suite 300 Houston, TX 77057 713-527-8919 http://www.colhouston.org/

Consul General of Costa Rica 3000 Wilcrest Dr., Suite 112 Houston, TX 77042 713-266-0484 Fax: 713-266-1527

Honorary Consul General of Cote d'Ivoire 412 Hawthorne UN Houston, TX 77006 713-529-4928

Honorary Consul General of Cyprus 320 S. 66th Street Houston, TX 77011 713-928-2264

Honorary Consul General of the Czech Republic 11748 West Heritage PW Houston, TX 76691 713-629-6963 Fax: 254-826-7727

Honorary Consul General of Denmark 4545 Post Oak Place, Suite 105 Houston, TX 77027 713-622-9018 Fax: 713-622-7514

Consul General of Ecuador 7510 Acorn Lane Frisco, TX 75034 972-712-9107 Fax: 928-962-9869

Consul General of Egypt 5718 Westheimer, Suite 1350 Houston, TX 77057 713-961-4915 Fax: 713-961-3868 Consul General of El Salvador 1720 Hillendahl Boulevard Houston, TX 77055 713-270-6239 Fax: 713-270-9683

Honorary Consul General of Ethiopia 9301 Southwest Freeway, Suite 250 Houston, TX 77074 713-271-7567 Fax: 713-772-3858

Honorary Consul General of Fiji 3400 Carlisle Street, Suite 310 Dallas, TX 75204 214-954-9993

Honorary Consul General of Finland 14 Greenway Plaza #22R Houston, TX 77046 713-552-1722 Fax: 713-552-1676

Honorary Consul General of France c/o Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody 401 Congress Avenue, Suite 2200 Austin, TX 78701 512-480-5605

Honorary Consul General of Georgia 3040 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 700 Houston, TX 77056 713-585-3533 Fax: 713-585-3532

Honorary Consul General of Germany 310 S. St. Marys, Suite 22010 San Antonio, TX 78205 210-226-1788 Fax: 210-224-4455

Honorary General Consul General of Ghana 3434 Locke Ln Houston, TX 77027-4139 713-960-8806 Fax: 713-960-8833

Consul General of Greece 520 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 450 Houston, TX 77027 713-840-7522 Fax: 713-840-0614 http://www.greekembassy.org/Embassy/content/en/Ro ot.aspx?office=7

Consul General of Guatemala 3013 Fountainview, Suite 210 Houston, TX 77057 713-953-9531 Fax: 713-953-9383

Honorary Consul of Guyana 11110 Bellaire Bl., Suite 207 Houston, TX 77072 713-497-4466

Honorary Vice Consul General of Haiti 3535 Sage Road Houston, TX 77027 713-661-8275 Fax: 713-661-8275

Consul General of Honduras 6161 Savoy Dr., Suite 625 Houston, TX 77036 713-785-5625 Fax: 713-785-5931

Honorary Consul General of Hungary 11850 Hempstead Hwy Suite 230 Houston, TX 77092 Tel 713-476-0497 Fax 713-476-0437

Honorary Consul General of Iceland 2348 W. Settlers Way Woodlands, TX 77380 713-367-2777 Fax: 281-362-4385 Consul General of India 4300 Scotland Street Houston, TX 77007 713-626-2148 Fax: 713-626-2450 cgi-hou@swbell.net http://www.cgihouston.org/

Consul General of the Republic of Indonesia 10900 Richmond Avenue Houston, TX 77042-4704 713-785-1691 Fax: 713-780-9644

Honorary Consul General of Ireland 2630 Sutton Court Houston, TX 77027 713-961-5263 Fax: 713-961-3850

Consul General of Israel 24 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1500 Houston, TX 77046-2402 713-627-3780 Fax: 713-627-0149

Consul General of Italy 1300 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 660 Houston, TX 77056 713-850-7520 Fax: 713-850-9113 http://www.consmiami.esteri.it/Consolato\_Houston/M enu/IL\_Consolato/IL\_Console/

Honorary Consul General of Jamaica 6001 Savoy Drive, Suite 509 Houston, TX 77036 713-541-3333 Fax: 713-774-4277

Consul General of Japan 909 Fannin Street, Suite 3000 Houston, TX 77010 713-652-2977 Fax: 713-651-7822 http://www.houston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index\_e.htm

Honorary General Consul General of Jordan P.O. Box 3727 Houston, TX 77253-3727 713-224-2911 Fax: 713-228-8650

Consul General of Korea 1990 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1250 Houston, TX 77056 713-961-0186 Fax: 713-961-3340 http://www.koreahouston.org/english/index.htm

Honorary Consul General of Kyrgyzstan 15600 Barkers Landing Road #1 Houston, TX 77079-2558 281-920-1841 Fax: 281-920-1823

Honorary Consul General of Latvia 5847 San Felipe, Suite 3275 Houston, TX 77057 713-785-0807

Honorary Consul General of Lebanon 2400 Augusta, Suite 308 Houston, TX 77057 713-268-1640 Fax: 713-268-1641

Honorary Consul General of Lesotho 7400 Valburn Dr. Austin, TX 78731 512-345-0747

Honorary Consul General of Lithuania 4030 Case Street Houston, TX 77005 713-665-4218 Fax: 1-866-764-8622

Honorary Consul General of Luxembourg 48 Valley Ridge Road Fort Worth, TX 76107-3109 817-738-8600 Fax: 817-731-4326 Honorary Consul General of Malaysia 700 Louisiana UN 46th Floor Houston, TX 77002 713-222-1470

Honorary Consul General of Malta 2602 Commonwealth Street Houston, TX 77006 713-654-7900 Fax: 713-650-6815

Consul General of Mexico 410 Baylor St. Austin, TX 78703 512-478-2866 Fax: 512-478-8008 http://www.sre.gob.mx/austin/

Honorary Consul General of Monaco 8350 North Central Expressway, Suite 1900 Dallas, TX 75206 214-234-4750 Fax: 214-234-4029

Honorary Consular Agent of Mongolia 1221 Lamar, Suite 1201 Houston, TX 77010 713-759-1922 Fax: 713-951-9145

Honorary Consul General of Morocco 2121 Kirby Dr. #144 Houston, TX 77019 713-521-7607 Fax: 713-521-7551

Honorary Consul General of Namibia 1330 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 2200 Houston, TX 77056 713-965-5119

Honorary Consul General of the Netherlands 5177 Richmond Ave., Suite 725 Houston, TX 77056 713-622-8023 Fax: 713-622-3581

Honorary Consul General of New Guinea 4900 Woodway Dr., Suite 1200 Houston, TX 77056 713-966-2500

Honorary Consul General of New Zealand 246 Warrenton Dr. Houston, TX 77024 713-973-8680 Fax: 713-893-6442

Consul General of Nicaragua 8989 Westheimer Road, Suite 103 Houston, TX 77063 713-789-2762 Fax: 713-789-3164

Consul General of Norway 2777 Allen Parkway, Suite 1185 Houston, TX 77019-2123 713-521-2900 Fax: 713-521-9648 http://www.norway.org/houston/aboutus/velkomstside.htm

Consul General of Pakistan 11850 Jones Road Houston, TX 77070 281-890-8525 Fax: 281-890-1433 http://www.pakistanconsulatehouston.org/

Consul General of Panama 24 E. Greenway Plaza, Suite 1307 Houston, TX 77046 713-622-4451 Fax: 713-622-4468 http://www.conpahouston.com/

Honorary Consul General of Paupau New Guinea 4900 Woodway Drive, Suite 1200 Houston, TX 77056 713-966-2500

Honorary Consul General of Paraguay 4707 Welford Drive Bellaire, TX 77401 713-592-6498 Honorary Consul General of Peru 5177 Richmond Avenue, Suite 695 Houston, Texas, 77056 (713) 355-9517 (713) 355-9438 Fax: 713-355-9377 http://www.consuladoperu.com/consulados/index.php?cons ulado=HOUSTON

Honorary Consul General of Poland 35 Harbor View Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77479 281-565-1507 Fax: 281-565-1507

Honorary Consul General of Portugal 4544 Post Oak Place, Suite 350 Houston, TX 77027 713-759-1188 Fax: 713-237-0401

Consul General of Qatar 1990 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 810 Houston, TX 77056 713-355-8221 Fax: 713-355-8184

Honorary Consul General of Romania 4265 San Felipe UN, Suite 220 Houston, TX 77027 713-629-1551 Fax: 713-629-1553

Consul General of Russia 1333 West Loop South, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77027 713-337-3300 Fax: 713-337-3305 http://www.rusconshouston.org/

Consul General of Saudi Arabia 5718 Westheimer, Suite 1500 Houston, TX 77057 713-785-5577 Fax: 713-785-1163 http://www.mofa.gov.sa/Detail.asp?InSectionID=5251&InNe wsItemID=57588

Consul General of Senegal 9701 Richmond Avenue, Suite 212 Houston, TX 77042 713-706-3300 Fax: 713-706-3304

Honorary Consul General of Singapore 600 Travis Street, Suite 3700 Houston, TX 77002 713-512-4488 Fax: 713-512-4498

Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic 10830 N. Central Expressway, Suite 400 Dallas, TX 75231 Telephone: 214-251-8020 Fax: 214-251-8021

Honorary Consul General of Slovenia 2925 Briarpark, 7th Floor Houston, TX 77042 713-430-7350 Fax: 713-430-7077

Honorary Consul General of South Africa 400 South Zang Blvd., Suite 806 Dallas, TX 77208 214-943-1068

Consul General of Spain 1800 Bering Dr., Suite 660 Houston, TX 77057 713-783-6200 Fax: 713-783-6166

Honorary Consul General of Sweden 2909 Hillcroft Street, Suite 515 Houston, TX 77057-5852 713-953-1417 Fax: 713-953-7776

Honorary Consul General of Switzerland 11922 Taylorcrest Road Houston, TX 77024 713-467-9889 Honorary Consul General of Syria 5433 Westheimer, Suite 1020 Houston, TX 77056 713-622-8860 Fax: 713-622-8872

Taiwan: Senior Overseas Chinese Commissioner 1168 W. Main Street, Suite E Lewisville, TX 75067 972-436-4242 Fax: 972-420-0102

Honorary Consul General of Thailand 600 Travis Street, Suite 2800 Houston, TX 77002 713-229-8733 Fax: 713-228-1303

Honorary Consul General of Trinidad and Tobago 2400 Augusta Dr., Suite 250 Houston, TX 77057 713-465-4660

Honorary Consul General of Tunisia 12527 Mossycup Dr. Houston, TX 77024 713-935-9427 Fax: 713-935-9847

Consul General of Turkey 1990 Post Oak Boulevard, Suite 1300 Houston, TX 77056-3813 713-622-5849 Fax: 713-623-6639

Honorary Consul General of Ukraine 2934 Fairway Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77478-4023 281-242-2842

Honorary Consul General of the United Kingdom 254 Spencer Ln San Antonio, TX 78201 210-738-1704

Honorary Consul General of Uruguay 1220 South Ripple Creek Dr. Houston, TX 77057 713-974-7855

Consul General of Venezuela 2925 Briarpark Dr., Suite 900 Houston, TX 77042-3732 713-961-5141

Consul General of Vietnam 5251 Westheimer Rd, Suite 1100 Houston, Texas 77056 United States Tel: 713-850-1233 | 713-840-0096 Fax: 713-840-0159 | 713-871-0312 http://vietnamconsulateinhouston.org/

### **Culture and Translation Services**

Across Cultures

512-922-3530

www.acrosscultures.info

#### annakatrina@acrosscultures.info

Intercultural awareness and competence training, expatriate relocation programs and destination services.

Adams Globalization 10435 Burnet Road, Suite 125 Austin, TX 78758 512-821-1818 1-800-880-0667 Fax: 512-821-11-888

info@adamsglobalization.com http://www.adamsglobalization.com/

Comprehensive, turnkey internationalization and localization services including software localization and testing, website globalization, document localization and international desktop publishing

Alliance Francaise d'Austin 4101 Medical Parkway Suite #106 Austin, TX 512-451-1704 <u>Info@afaustin.org</u> www.afaustin.org

Provides French language classes, programs, and newsletter updates on interests of the Austin-French community

Asian American Cultural Center 11713 Jollyville Road Austin, TX 78759 512-336-5069 Fax: 512-336-5075 www.asianamericancc.com

Provides facilities, expertise and unique space for the sharing of culture between the East and the West in the American Experience.

Asociación de Colombianos en Austin 1006 Hermitage Dr. Austin, Texas 78753 512-339-0903 DOrozco@austin.rr.com Austin Accueil 3418 North Lamar Blvd Austin, TX 78705 512-767-0895 <u>austinaccueil@yahoo.com</u> www.austinaccueil.org

Non-profit organization helping French families relocate to Austin and Central Texas.

Austin Area Translators and Interpreters Association P.O. Box 13331 Austin, TX 78711-3331 512-236-2409

www.aatia.org

Association bringing together area interpreters and translators for informal networking, special interest groups; serves as both a resource and a forum of exchange for issues related to the industry

Austin Celtic Association P.O. Box 684163 Austin, TX 78768 <u>aca@austincelts.org</u> www.austincelts.org

Non-profit organization established to celebrate and promote Celtic culture through music, dance, language, theatre, sports, history, and the arts in central Texas.

Austin Chinese Professional Society 7413 Amanda Ellis Way Austin, TX 78749 webmaster@acpsc.8m.com

Austin Filipino-American Association 10901 North Lamar Boulevard, Suite B 206 Austin, TX 78753 www.afaaonline.org

Austin India http://www.austinindia.org/

Austin-Sister City Committees

http://austintexas.gov/department/sister-citiesprogram Adelaide, Australia- http://www.meetup.com/austinadelaide/ Angers, France Antalya, Turkey Gwangmyeong, Korea Koblenz, Germany Lima, Peru- http://austinlima.org Maseru, Lesotho Oita, Japan- http://austinoita.alotspace.com/ Old Orlu, Nigeria Saltillo, Mexico Taichung, Taiwan- http://www.austinsc.org Xishuangbanna, China- http://xishuangbanna.org

Austin Polish Society P.O. Box 29111 Austin, TX 78731 512-233-0068 <u>austinpolishsociety@yahoo.com</u> <u>www.austinpolishsociety.org</u> Polish arts, culture and educational non-profit organization in central Texas

Austin Taiwanese Association P.O. Box 29035 Austin, TX 78755 www.austin-taiwanese.org

Non-profit organization that serves the Taiwanese-American community in the Austin-TX metropolitan region.

Bangladesh Association of Greater Austin 10901 N. Lamar Boulevard, Suite B-206 Austin, TX 78753 512-407-8240

www.bagatx.org

Non-political and non-profit organization to strengthen and perpetuate the Bangladeshi culture, tradition, heritage and language

\*Berlitz Language Center 8400 N. Mopac Expressway Austin, TX 78759 512-343-0087 1-888-561-7169 Fax: 512-343-0144

www.berlitz.us

Cross-cultural training; translation and interpretation from/into all languages

Bridge 360 1016 La Posada Dr # 120 Austin, TX 78752 512-837-8798 Fax: 512-420-8788 http://www.bridge360.com/

Software applications, products and IT systems that work in any country in the world

Canadians in Austin info@canadiansinaustin.com

www.canadiansinaustin.com

A non-profit social group to organize events for Canadian ex-pats in the Central Texas area.

CEO International 8924 Wimberly Cove Austin, TX 78735 Dr. Eun Kim 512-343-0472 512-699-7725 (mobile) Fax: 512-343-0472

#### www.drkimglobal.com

Global leadership coaches and cross-cultural management/ communication consultants. Focus areas: talent development, marketing and sales, teambuilding, executive presence, presentation skills, doing business in Asia, relocation assistance, destination services.

Centro Argentino de Austin Info@CentroArgentinoDeAustin.org http://centroargentinodeaustin.org

Chinese Society of Austin P.O. Box 201683 Austin, TX 78720-1683 512-576-2816

http://www.csaustin.org/ A nonprofit organization whose purpose is to become a representative of Chinese American in Austin.

Creative Language Center 1912 W Anderson Lane Suite 201 Austin, TX 78757 512-453-8680 info@creativelanguagecenter.com www.creativelanguagecenter.com/ Teaches Spanish language, culture, and history

Danish Club of Austin 512-970-0816 www.dkaustin.org

Organization for cultural, social and educational purposes

German-Texan Heritage Society 507 East 10th Street *or* P.O. Box 684171 Austin, TX 78768 512- 482-0927 1-866-482-4847 Fax: 512-482-0636 info@GermanTexans.org <u>www.gths.net</u> An organization to help preserve the rich cultural heritage of the

An organization to help preserve the rich cultural heritage of German families that immigrated to Texas

Hispanic Women's Network of Texas (HWNT) Austin Chapter; Region 8 P.O. Box 1356 Austin, TX 78767-1356 Office: 512 481-1600 Fax: 512-444-3666 <u>austin@hwnt.org</u> <u>http://www.hwnt.org/</u> *Hispanic-based women's organization* 

India Community Center P.O. Box 27891 Austin, TX 78755 <u>www.iccaustin.org</u>

Inlingua 3818 Spicewood Springs Road Suite 300 Austin, TX 78759 512- 794-8789 Fax: 512- 794-8090 http://www.inlingua-it.com Language, interpretation, and translation services

Iranian Cultural Community of Austin <u>http://www.farsinet.com/icca/</u> *A non-profit, non-political and non-religious organization of Iranians, who reside and/or work in Austin, Texas USA.* 

Italian Cultural Association of Greater Austin <a href="http://www.austinitalians.org/">http://www.austinitalians.org/</a>

GlobalAustin 201 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Austin, TX 78701 512-505-4079 Fax: 512-505-4078 http://globalaustin.com/

Provides services to international students and visitors

Japan-America Society of Greater Austin 201 E. 2nd Street Austin, TX 78701 info@jasga.org www.jasga.org

A nonprofit organization bridging the cultures of Japan and central Texas by promoting friendly US-Japan relations through educational and cultural programs for its members and the Greater Austin community.

Jewish Community Association of Austin 7300 Hart Lane Austin, TX 78731 512-735-8000 http://shalomaustin.org/

An organization to enhance the quality of Jewish life in the greater Austin area and around the world, through charitable, educational, social service, cultural, religious, and recreational endeavors.

Korean American Association of Austin 7907 Lazy Ln Austin, TX 78757 512-453-2552 http://austinkaaa.tripod.com/

Learn Español 12200 Mosley Ln Austin, TX 78727 512-294-9678

Linking Languages Ventana del Soul Cultural Center 1834 East Oltorf Street or P.O. Box 160334 Austin, TX 78716 512-263-1465 Fax: 630-839-6716 http://www.linkinglanguages.com/

Offers premier language instruction and translation services

Mexican-American Cultural Center 600 River Street Austin, TX 78701 512-974-3770 http://www.cityofaustin.org/macc/default.htm

The Network of Asian American Organizations 10901 North Lamar Blvd. Suite B-206 Austin, TX 78753 512- 407-8240 Fax: 512-407-8233 http://naao-austin.org/

An "umbrella organization" or organization of organizations that have come together to work on issues of importance to the Greater Austin Asian American community.

### Norwegian Society of Texas

www.norwegiansocietytexas.org (Site under construction)

Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance and Cultural Center 701 Tillery Street #13 Austin TX 78702-3740 512.251.8122 <u>dance@prfdance.org</u> www.prfdance.org

### Ralph McElroy Translation Company 910 West Ave Austin, TX 78701 512-472-6753 1-800-531-9977

#### www.mcelroytranslation.com

Provides translation and localization services in all languages to business and government clientele enhancing their ability to compete in global markets.

Rapid Spanish Casa de Luz Center for Integral Studies 1701 Toomey Rd. Austin, TX 78704 512-263-9944 info@RapidSpanish.com http://www.rapidspanish.com/

# Russian Speakers Society of Austin 512-442-4016

#### www.rusaustin.com

The Society was created for Austinites and visitors of Austin who come from the former Soviet Union as well as for anybody who has interest in this area of the world.

Spanish Language Instruction 1011 Kramer Ln Austin, TX 78758 512-835-6950ý Spanish Tutoring and Instruction Austin, TX 78731 512-302-3760

South Africans in Austin

www.sa-austin.com A formal club for South Africans living in the Austin area.

Spanish Workspeak LLC PO Box 200255, #276 Austin, TX 78720 512-981-8255

#### http://www.spanishworkspeak.com

Offers on-line products that enable you to speak the Spanish used in your particular profession

A Taste of Italy in Austin 512-345-8941 www.atasteofitalyinaustin.com The company brings the very heart of It

The company brings the very heart of Italy in Austin, Texas, while promoting local Italian businesses and the love of the Italian culture, language, food, art, fashion, music, and activities.

Texas Bengali Cultural Alliance 6704 Havenbrook Cove Austin, TX 78759 512-413-9193 <u>contact@tbca-austin.org</u> <u>http://www.tbca-austin.org</u>

Telugu Cultural Association of Austin http://www.austintelugu.org

TransPerfect Translations 10801 North MoPac Expwy, Bld 3, Ste 720 Austin, TX 78759 512-477-6100 Fax: 512-477-6101 apareti@transperfect.com

#### http://www.transperfect.com/

A full range of language and business services including professional translation, interpretation, subtitling, voiceovers, multicultural marketing, diversity and inclusion consulting, and litigation support to multinational companies in over 100 languages.

U.S. Japan Translation, Inc. 504 Bulian Ln Austin, TX 78746 512-472-1130 www.usjapan.com Japanese Technical translation

Vietnamese-American Community of Austin 1006 Yager Ln, Suite 105 Austin, TX 78753 or P.O. Box 270246 Austin, TX 78727 <u>http://www.vacat.org/</u> A non-profit organization that serves a large Vietnamese American community in the Austin metropolitan area.

### **Education Programs**

Austin High School 1715 W. Cesar Chavez Austin, TX 78703 512 414-2505 Fax: 512 474-7935 http://www.austinisd.org/schools/details.phtml?id=014 Academy for global studies

Austin International School 12001 Oak Knoll Drive Austin, TX 78759 512-331-7806

http://www.AustinInternationalSchool.org/

The school follows an International Baccalaureate-American hybrid curriculum, offering a progressive and rigorous academic program with a global perspective.

Eastside Memorial Global Tech High School 1012 Arthur Stiles Austin, TX 78721

512-414-5810

#### Fax: 512-414-6819

An international studies school that will intertwine global issues into all subject areas with the intent of making students globally competent citizens.

House of Tutors 2400 Pearl Street Austin, TX 78705 512-472-6666 Fax: 512-478-2632

#### www.houseoftutors.edu

Provides educational solutions including tutoring for students around the world

\*Huston-Tillotson College 900 Chicon St. Austin, TX 78702 512-505-3028 Fax: 512-505-3192

http://www.htu.edu

Accredited, four-year, historically black college offers study abroad program

\*IC2 Institute University of Texas at Austin 2815 San Gabriel Austin, TX 78705 512-475-8900 Fax: 512-475-8901 info@icc.utexas.edu

### http://www.ic2.utexas.edu/

Interdisciplinary research unit using science and technology as resources for economic development and enterprise growth that includes a global commercialization program, global fellows program, and study abroad program

\*International Business Institute Austin Community College 5930 Middle Fiskville Rd. Austin, TX 78752-4390 512.223.7290 ibi@austincc.edu

#### http://www.austincc.edu/intlbus/

Certification program focusing on Certified Global Business Professional (CGBP), a competency designation certified by the North American Small Business International Trade Educators (NASBITE)

Iels Language School 1501 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite #D Austin, TX 78703 512-476-3909 Fax: 512-476-6004 *Offers intensive English program* 

Literacy Austin 2222 Rosewood Ave Austin, TX 78702 512-478-7323

literacy@io.com

http://www.literacyaustin.org/ Basic education and English as a second language

\*St. Edwards University 3001 S. Congress Avenue Austin, TX 78704 512-448-8400

www.stedwards.edu

Undergraduate and master's level post-secondary education

### St. Michael's Catholic Academy 3000 Barton Creek Blvd. Austin, TX 78735 (512) 328-2323

#### http://www.smca.com

A college-preparatory high school that integrates international study abroad language programs and global business immersion travel to equip students to become 21<sup>st</sup> Century Global Learners.

Texas International Education Consortium Ronald Aqua, Ph.D. President and CEO Jaime Ortiz, Ph.D. Vice President 1103 West 24th Street Austin, TX 78705 512-477-9283 Fax: 512-322-9097

#### http://www.tiec.org/

Provides programs and services that help students, universities and communities become more competitive in education, business, the professions, and international affairs

\*Texas State University at San Marcos Center for International Studies Lampasas Hall, Room 503 601 University Dr. San Marcos, TX 78666 512-245-2339 Fax: 512-245-7857 http://www.txstate.edu/internationalstudies/ Offers bachelors, master's and doctoral degree programs

\*University Of Phoenix - Austin Campus 10801-2 N. Mopac Expy, Suite 120 Austin, TX 78759 512-344-1400 Fax: 512-344-1451 http://www.phoenix.edu Offers Master's of Business Administration/Global Management

\*University of Texas at Austin 400 Main Building Austin, TX 78712 512-471-1232 Fax: 512-471-5102

#### www.utexas.edu

Offers baccalaureate, masters, special professional, and doctoral degrees.

Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) McCombs School of Business, GSB 3.126 University of Texas at Austin Austin, TX 78712 512-471-1829 Fax: 512-471-7556 ciber@mccombs.utexas.edu

#### http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/research/ciber/

International business education Develops and promotes the internationalization of U.S. business education, integration of international non-business disciplines (e.g., language) into business education, and the development of partnerships with both the regional international business

#### \*International Office

community and international universities.

University of Texas at Austin Wooldridge Hall 600 West 24th Street, Austin, TX 78705 512-471-1211 Fax: 512- 232-4363 jdwilcox@mail.utexas.edu http://www.utexas.edu/international/ Translation services and cross-culture training

LBJ School of Public Affairs University of Texas at Austin 2315 Red River St. Sid Richardson Hall, Unit 3 Austin, TX 78712-1536 512-471-3200

#### www.utexas.edu/lbj/index.php

Advanced education school of Public Policy includes international relations program

\*McCombs School of Business The University of Texas at Austin 1 University Sta B6000 Austin, TX 78712-0201 512-471-5921 Fax 512-471-7725

#### http://www.mccombs.utexas.edu/

Offers undergraduate and graduate degrees including global track program and study abroad program

For a complete listing of all liberal arts sections. http://www.utexas.edu/cola/offices/centers institutes programs/
# **Centers, Institutes and Programs**

Center for African & African American Studies Center for Arabic Studies Abroad **Center for Asian American Studies** Edward A. Clark Center for Australian & New Zealand **Studies** Américo Paredes Center for Cultural Studies **Center for East Asian Studies Center for European Studies** Center for International Business Education and Research **Center for Mexican American Studies Center for Middle Eastern Studies** Center for Russian, East European & Eurasian Studies Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies Texas Language Technology Center Teresa Lozano Long Institute for Latin American Studies South Asia Institute **British Studies Program** 

## Logistics for International Shipping

### **Air Cargo Carriers**

\*Austin-Bergstrom International Airport 3600 Presidential Blvd. Box 411 Austin, TX 78791 512-530-6681 Fax: 530-6653 http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/austinairport/

Aeroterm US, Inc. 1-800-949-7506 Fax: 281-443-0020 19115 Lee Road, Suite 226 Humble, TX 77338

http://www.aeroterm.com/

For information on air-cargo carriers at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport

Air Canada Cargo 1-800-648-3029 http://www.aircanada.com/cargo/en/

America West/U.S. Airways Cargo 1-888-300-0099 cargo\_contact\_center@usairways.com <u>http://www.usairways.com/awa/content/traveltools/cargo/d</u> <u>efault.aspx</u>

American Airlines Cargo 1-800-227-4622 https://www.aacargo.com

Austin CargoPort Development L.L.C. (Lynx Group) 9501 Cargo Avenue, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78719 512-530-2536 Fax: 512-530-2540 http://www.lynxs.com/

For information on air-cargo carriers at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport Aviation Facilities Company, Inc. 703-902-2900 1-888-740-2227 Fax: 703-902-2901

http://www.afcoinc.com/

For information on air-cargo carriers at Austin-Bergstrom International Airport

\*Continental Airlines Cargo 1-800-421-2456 http://www.cocargo.com/cargo/

Delta Airlines Cargo 1-800-352-2746 http://www.delta.com/business\_programs\_services/delta\_ca rgo/index.jsp

Express One Air Cargo 1823 Fortview Rd Ste 202 Austin, TX 78704 512-442-1174

Integrated Airline Services 9501 Cargo Drive, Suite 600 Austin, TX 78719 512-530-3800 http://www.iasair.com/

Land Air Express 8606 Wall St # 200 Austin, TX 78754 512-448-4418 http://www.landairexpress.com/

Lykes Cartage Company Inc 8606 Wall Street Suite 1900 Austin, TX 78754 512-933-9060 http://www.lykescartage.com/

Northwest Airlines 1-800-692-2746 http://www.cargo.nwa.com/

\*Southwest Airlines 1-800-533-1222 http://www.swacargo.com/swacargo/home.htm

Team Worldwide 2120 Denton Dr. Austin, TX 78758 512-834-2580 Fax: 512-834-1313 http://www.teamair.com/

United Airlines 1-800-822-2746 http://www.unitedcargo.com/

### Customhouse Brokers/Freight Forwarders/3PLs/Distribution Centers

Customhouse Broker: Intermediate between importer, cargo carriers, and customs, prepares import documents and arranges payment of duties and taxes in accordance to U.S. regulations.

Freight Forwarder: Arranges shipping and prepares related documents, including insurance and foreign payments. May be a 3PL.

Third Party Logistics (3PL): Outsourcing of supply chain functions and logistics such as shipping, storage, and distribution.

*NVOCC: Non-vessel operating common carriers, licensed, books cargo space on ocean carriers.* 

AFC Worldwide Express 817 W North Loop Blvd Austin, TX 78756 512-371-0225 http://www.afcexpress.com/ Freight forwarder

Bison Global Logistics P.O. Box 80101 Austin, TX 78708 512-832-6967 512-834-1000 1-800-467-1247 Fax: 512-834-8083 http://www.bisonglobal.com/ *3PL*  \*Central Forwarding/Central Transportation Systems Inc. 1001 W Howard Ln Austin, TX 78753 512-651-0145 1-800-283-3126 Fax: 512-651-0144 <u>http://www.centralsystems.com/intl\_intro.cfm</u> *Freight forwarder* 

Ceva Logistics 7900 E Riverside Dr Austin, TX 78744 512-356-1700 1-800-1-888-4949 http://www.cevalogistics.com/ *3PL, customhouse brokers, and supply chain consultants* 

CH Robinson Worldwide Inc. 9601 Amberglen Blvd Austin, TX 78729 512-918-3288 http://www.chrobinson.com/default.aspx 3PL, NVOCC, customhouse brokers

Con-Way Freight 8101 Bagby Drive Austin, TX 78724 US 512-926-5490 1-800-872-4481 Fax: 512-926-8156 http://www.con-way.com/en/ *3PL* 

DB Schenker USA 9401-B Cargo Ave. Austin, TX 78719 512-389-1311 1-800-852-3241 Fax: 512-389-1016 http://www.dbschenkerusa.com/

Freight forwarder and customhouse brokers

Expeditors International 8206 Cross Park Dr., Suite 200 Austin, TX 78754 512-491-8610 Fax: 512-491-8161

http://www.expeditors.com/ 3PL and customhouse brokers

\*FedEx 5811 Techni-Center Dr. Austin, TX 78721 11-800-GO-FEDEX <u>http://fedex.com/us/</u> *Freight Forwarder* 

\*Ghedi International, Inc. 1-8002 Burleson Road Austin, TX 78744 512-385-3706 Fax: 512-385-8300 info@ghedi.com www.ghedi.com Freight forwarder and customhouse brokers

DHL International 9401A Cargo Ave Austin, TX 78719 512-389-0611 1-800-225-5345 <u>http://www.dhl-usa.com/home/home.asp</u> *3PL* 

\*Intelligent Logistics, LLC 598 Greenhill Dr., Suite C Round Rock, TX 71665 512-238-6874 Fax: 512-238-1829 http://www.inlogistics.com 3PL

JSI Shipping 2101 E St Elmo Ste 375 Austin, TX 78744 512-444-7842 Fax: 512-444-8964 http://www.jsishipping.com/

3PL and customhouse brokers specializing in the semiconductor industry

Kintetsu World Express 4509 Freidrich Ln # 110 Austin, TX 78744 512-912-1884 http://www.kweusa.com/ 3PL and customhouse brokers Kuehne & Nagel, Inc. 11525 B Stonehollow Dr. Suite 235 Austin, TX 78758 512-719-4024 Fax: 512-719-4028 <u>http://www.kn-portal.com/</u> *3PL* 

Lago Logistics 19912 Highway 71 West Spicewood, TX 71669 512-264-7384 Fax: 1-512-264-7382 http://www.lagologistics.net/ 3PL

Landstar 13110 W Highway 290 Austin, TX 78737 512-301-0101ý http://www.landstar.com/Landstar/default.aspx 3PL, NVOCC, customhouse brokers

\*Magrabbit LLC 1212 E. Anderson Lane, Suite 800 Austin, TX 78728-1232 512-485-1078 1-800-777-5568 Fax: 512-310-8497 http://www.magrabbit.com 3PL and supply chain consultants

Nippon Express USA, Inc. 8101 Cameron Rd. #306 Austin, TX 78751 512-834-7400 Fax: 512-834-7406 http://www.nipponexpress.com/ 3PL

Old Dominion Freight Line Inc. 6403 Decker Ln Austin, TX 78724 512-926-9691 <u>www.odfl.com</u> *NVOCC* 

Power Freight Systems 9200 Waterford Center Bldg 1, Suite 400 Austin, TX 78758 512-821-0116 http://www.powerfreight.com/ Freight forwarders

R & L Carriers Austin, TX 78701 512-442-1454ý <u>http://www.gorlc.com/</u> *3PL and customhouse brokers* 

\*UPS 9020 Tuscany Way Austin, TX 78754 1-800-PICK-UPS http://www.ups.com/content/us/en/index.jsx 3PL and supply chain consultants

\*WW Global Logistics 206 Hurst Creek Rd. Austin, TX 78734 512-261-8340 Fax: 512-261-1018 http://www.wwgloballogistics.com Freight forwarders and import/export consulting

YRC/Yellow Freight System Inc. 9018 Tuscany Way Austin, TX 78754 512-929-3261 1-800-610-6500 Fax: 956-717-1535 <u>http://www.yrc.com/</u> *3PL* 

Other Transportation Transportation only, no other services

AAA Cooper Transportation 1215 Wells Branch Parkway Pflugerville, TX 71660 512-251-4148 Fax: 512-251-4988 http://www.aaacooper.com/

Ships throughout Puerto Rico, Canada, Mexico, Central America, South America, and the Caribbean

ABF Freight System Inc 8200 BAGBY DR Austin, TX 78724 1-800-422-3868 http://www.abfs.com/rteguide/internat/default.asp Provides intermodal transportation around the world

Bekins 2337 Patterson Industrial Dr Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-251-0150 1-800-361-1266 http://www.bekins.com/moving/ International moving services

Bellair Express 9709 Brown Ln # O Austin, TX 78754 512-977-0400 1-800-676-5247 http://www.bellair.com/ International courier service

Bright Truck Leasing 911 E Saint Johns Ave Austin, TX 78752 512-454-4727 Fax: 512-454-4735 http://www.brightntls.com/ Truck leasing throughout U.S. and Canada

Central Transport 6220 Banning Lane #2 Austin, TX 78724 586-467-1900 Fax: 512-928-1107 http://www.centralsystems.com/ Ground transportation throughout U.S., Mexico, and Canada

FreightWatch International (USA) 7501 N. Capital of Texas Hwy, Suite A-120 Austin TX 78731 512-225-6490 www.freightwatchintl.com

Offers services in the US such as electronic freight security (covert tracking with monitoring capabilities), logistics security managers, logistics escorts, and government compliance consulting. Our goal is cargo theft prevention.

Forward Air 1130 Rutherford Ln Suite 150 Austin, TX 78753 512-385-1998 Fax: 512-385-2151 http://www.forwardair.com/ Shipping throughout U.S. and Canada

Lone Star Overnight 1601 Headway Cir Austin, TX 78754 512-873-8067 http://www.lso.com/ Regional overnight delivery to South-Central U.S. and Mexico

Mission Petroleum Carriers 3707 Goodwin Ave Austin, TX 78721 512-928-2700 http://www.mipe.com/

Transportation of products in bulk between the United States, Canada, and Mexico

Saia Motor Freight Line Inc 8080 Purnell Dr Austin, TX 78753 512-873-7748 <u>http://www.saia.com/v2/default.aspx</u> *Ground transportation throughout U.S., Mexico, and Canada* 

Southwestern Motor Transport

9715 Crofford Ln Austin, TX 78724 512-272-8207

www.smtl.com

Ground transportation and warehousing throughout U.S., Mexico, and Canada

Watkins Motor Freight 1916 Waukesha Dr Pflugerville, TX 71660 512-252-2446 http://landspan.com/Watkins/FamilyTrucking.html Ground transportation throughout U.S., Mexico, and Canada

## **Market Research/Public Relations**

ACS TradeOne Marketing 11149 Research Blvd., Suite 400 Austin, TX 78759 512.343.2002 1-866-4TRADE1 Fax: 512-343-1717 sales@tradeonemktg.com http://www.tradeonemktg.com Trade promotion management and consulting

\*AHA Communications, Inc. 209 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, TX 78704 512-448-4494 Fax: 512-476-4289 <u>http://www.getaha.com</u> International marketing

\*Avenue A Razorfish 300 W. 6th Street, Suite 1200 Austin, TX 78701 512-532-2000 Fax: 512-532-2001 http://www.avenuea-razorfish.com Digital marketing, offices located worldwide

\*Bazaarvoice 11921 N. MoPac Expy, Suite 420 Austin, TX 78759 512-732-9990 Fax: 512-732-9997 http://www.bazaarvoice.com International marketing

Bazzirk, Inc. 1027 E. Riverside Dr. Austin, TX 78704 512-418-8500 Fax: 512-418-8721

### www.bazzirk.com

Business to business marketing services including strategic planning, research, advertising, and web design

BCA International 3910 Danli Ln Austin, TX 78749 512-292-8351 Fax: 512-292-8351 <u>BCAInternational@BCAInternational.net</u> www.bcainternational.net

Management consulting services: outsourcing software for competitive analysis, program/project analysis, benchmarking analysis, business and technology strategic alliance development, and product marketing

\*Bells International, Inc. 109 Denson Dr. Austin, TX 78752 512-454-9663 Fax: 512-380-7974 http://www.bellsintl.com

International marketing, advertising, and design

Boaz Enterprises 1701 Intervail Drive Austin, TX 78746 (512)686-3664 info@BOAZent.com

## www.BOAZenterprises.com

Marketing, Communications, Media Relations, Public Relations, Outreach, Training with international focus Certifications: HUB, MBE/WBE DBE pending

CIBER, Inc. 4515 Seton Center Parkway Suite 100 Austin, TX 78759 512-458-6650 Fax: 512-458-6648

<u>www.cibertexas.com</u> International system integration consultancy and outsourcing company for both private and government sector clients

The Global Business Accelerator IC<sup>2</sup> Institute (UT-Austin) 3925 West Braker Ln Austin, TX 78759, The University of Texas, MCC Building 512-475-8941

#### www.ic2.utexas.edu/global

Designs and delivers technology commercialization programs. The theories and hypotheses developed at the Institute are tested in lifescale through several world-recognized programs

\*Hoovers.com 5800 Airport Boulevard 512-374-4500 Fax: 512-374-4501

#### www.hoovers.com

Proprietary business information through the Internet, data feeds, wireless devices, and co-branding agreements with other online services

\*Illuminas 3801 S. Capital of TX Hwy., Suite 200 Austin, TX 78704 512-652-2700 Fax: 512-652-2702 http://www.illuminas-global.com International marketing research consultancy

JBL Strategies

P.O. Box 1387

Austin, TX 78767

512-529-7685

#### jbl@jblprstrategies.com

International communications and marketing consulting, specializing in the arts, green building, travel & tourism, and wine industries

JRG Communications, Inc.

2512 S IH-35 Suite 123 Austin, TX 78704 512-441-9614 Fax: 512-280-7813 info@JRGusa.com

### www.jrgusa.com

Public relations, advertising, media relations, material produced in English and Spanish

KMR Group 1250 S. Capital of Texas Hwy Building 1, Suite 600 Austin, TX 78746 512-347-2934

http://www.kmr-group.com/gateway.asp

Manages research operations in over 30 countries, specializing in media and survey research and analysis software

LIM International (Logical Information Machines) 12301 Research Boulevard Building 4-Suite 410 Austin, TX 78759 512-697-3000 1-800-546-9646 Fax: 512-697-3001

#### www.lim.com

Data warehouse, data offerings, analytical tools, API's, market global history focusing on energy and financial data research

Millward Brown 1250 S Capital of Texas Hwy West Lake Hills, TX 78746 512-329-0808

http://www.millwardbrown.com/Sites/millwardbrown/ International marketing, offices in 47 countries

nVentia Ventures LLC Austin, TX 512-294-6380 http://www.nventia.com Global management consulting

Global management consulting, international business acceleration (U.S. Market Entry) and technology commercialization specializing in accelerating time to profitability. Locations in Central and South America, Mexico, Africa and the Caribbean.

\*Nustats LLC, A PTV Group Company Bldg A Suite 300 206 Wild Basin Rd. Austin, TX 78746 512-306-9065 Fax: 512-306-9077 http://www.nustats.com

International marketing

\*Public Strategies 98 San Jacinto Boulevard Suite 900 Austin, TX 78701 512-474-8848 Fax: 512-474-0120

#### www.pstrategies.com

International public affairs, public relations consultants, strategic communications firm dealing with media and research-targeted communications, direct mail services

\*Reachlocal 1701 Directors Blvd., Suite 250 Austin, TX 78744 512-652-6300 Fax: 512-287-6485 http://www.reachlocal.com International marketing

#### STRATFOR

700 Lavaca Street, Suite 900 Austin, TX 78701 Phone: 512 744 4300 Fax: 512 744 4334 info@stratfor.com www.stratfor.com Collects and analyzes intelligence from every part of the world.

Synovate 816 Congress Avenue, Suite 1210 Austin, TX 78701 512-478-9500 Ext. 5 Fax: 512-478-9501 http://www.synovate.com/ International marketing

\*Weber Shandwick 700 Lavaca St., Suite 1505 Austin, TX 78701 512-794-4707 www.webershandwick.com International marketing

Zpryme Research and Consulting 2011 Southern Oaks Dr. Austin, TX 78745 713-446-2338 1-888-977-9631 Fax: 512-323-2555 www.zpryme.com

Foreign market expansion and venture capital investment

### **New Hires**

\*Alliance Abroad, INC. 1221 S. Mopac Expy, Suite 100 Austin, TX 78746 512-457-8062 1-866-6AB-ROAD Fax: 512-460-3502 http://www.allianceabroad.com

Job placement in and outside of U.S., and International recruitment and staffing resource for companies

\*Austin Business Journal 111 Congress Ave., Suite 750 Austin, TX 78701 512-494-2500 Fax: 512-494-2525 <u>austin@bizjournals.com</u> <u>http://austin.bizjournals.com/austin/</u>

\*Austin 360/Austin American Statesman 305 S. Congress Ave. Austin, TX 78704 512-445-3500 http://www.austin360.com/ http://www.statesman.com/

Horizon Staffing Services Delivering Your Greatest Assets 13706 Research Blvd, Suite 209 Austin, TX 78050 Qaiser Abbasi General Manager Ph: 512-250-2959 Fax: 512-250-2991 g.abbasi@horizonstaff.com www.horizonstaff.com

Johnson & Associates 8303 Tecumseh Dr. Austin, TX 78753 512.339.9000 Fax: 512.339.2876

johnson@JAToday.com http://www.jatoday.com/

Economic development and community development solutions, executive recruiting, community assessments, strategic planning, leadership training and industrial recruiting \*Resources Global Professionals 701 Brazos, Suite 930 Austin, TX 78701 512-236-6750 Fax: 512-476-7504 www.resourcesglobal.com Offices in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific

\*Robert Half International 98 San Jacinto Blvd Austin, TX 78701 512-499-0705 512-457-1175 www.rhi.com Professional staffing with offices located worldwide

## **Organizations/Associations**

American Training Associates International 11405 Santa Cruz Austin, TX 78759 512-346-4177 Fax: 512-346-9277 http://american-training-associates.com

Provided organizations with professional speakers, trainers, consultants, and entertainers worldwide

Association Internationale des Etudiants en Sciences Economiques et Commerciales (AIESEC) 5107 Leralynn, Suite 202 Austin, TX 78751

http://aiesecaustin.org/Home/index.html

World's largest student-run organization focused on leadership, management and global issues. Each country with an AIESEC presence has its own national Member Committee (MC), which coordinates activities for that area.

\*American Electronics Association, TX Council Austin Office 401 West 15th Street, Suite 695 Austin, TX 78701 512-474-4403

http://www.aeanet.org/AeACouncils/TXCouncilStart.asp Business solutions for employees at all levels, lobbies governments at the state, federal, and international levels, providing access to investors, cost-saving business services and networking opportunities

American Marketing Association Austin AMA P.O. Box 141668 Austin, TX 78714-1668 512-349-3110 Fax: 349-3150 president@austinama.org http://www.austinama.org/ Marketing and networking in and around the Austin area

Austin-San Antonio Corridor Council Post Office Box 1618 San Marcos, TX 71667 512-558-7360 Fax: 512-558-7365

## www.thecorridor.org

Promotion of the region's economic development for the international commerce between North and South America aimed at the long range planning and coordination as planned highway, air, freight and commuter rail projects develop Austin-Sister City Committees http://austintexas.gov/department/sister-citiesprogram Adelaide, Australia- http://www.meetup.com/austinadelaide/ Angers, France Antalya, Turkey Gwangmyeong, Korea Koblenz, Germany Lima, Peru- http://austinlima.org Maseru. Lesotho Oita, Japan- http://austinoita.tripod.com/ Old Orlu, Nigeria Saltillo, Mexico Taichung, Taiwan- http://www.austinsc.org Xishuangbanna, China- http://xishuangbanna.org

\*Austin Technology Council 3925 West Braker Ln Austin, TX 78759 512-305-0023 info@austintechnologycouncil.org http://www.austintechnologycouncil.org/ Promote the growth and success of Austin's technology sector

\*Business Network International (BNI) 217 Holman Path Hutto, TX 78634 512-642-3756 Fax: 512-353-3041 www.bniaustin.com

Provides a structured environment for the development and exchange of ideas, contacts, and business referrals across the globe

Chinese American Semiconductor Professional Association (Austin Chapter) <u>tzluo@sbcglobal.net</u> <u>http://www.caspa-austin.com/</u>

#### Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals Austin Roundtable

<u>cscmp.org/roundtable/meetings.asp?CompanyID=41423</u> Leads the evolving supply chain management profession by developing, advancing, and disseminating supply chain knowledge and research

## Texas Camino Real District Export Council c/o U.S. Dept. of Commerce P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX. 78711

http://www.exporttexas.com/caminoreal/default.aspx Volunteer international trade professionals who meet for plenary sessions addressing international issues and awareness

## Texas International Business Council P.O. Box 170663 Austin, TX 78717

#### http://www.texasibc.org/

Dedicated to the support of Texas business, government, and trade organizations through international trade activities, market development, and market expansion

Semiconductor Equipment & Materials International (SEMI) 6500 River Place Boulevard Building 2, Suite 203 Austin, TX 78730, USA 512-372-8431 Fax: 512-372-9654

#### http://www.semi.org/en/index.htm

Global industry association serving the manufacturing supply chains for the microelectronic, display and photovoltaic industries engaged in nearly all of the major technology regions of the world

#### Texas Economic Development Council

1011 San Jacinto, Suite 650 Austin, TX 78701 512-480-8432 Fax: 512-472-7907

#### http://www.texasedc.org/

Provide information, educational and legislative services to support the economic growth of Texas

TIE Austin 3925 West Braker Lane Suite 3.8034, Austin, TX - 78759 512-305-0575 http://austin.tie.org/

Fostering conscious global entrepreneurship by educating, mentoring and networking with chapters worldwide

Veritas Foundation 602 W 13th St Austin, TX 78701 512-472-1877

#### https://www.veritasgroup.org/home.html

International service organization that focuses on solving environmental, energy, and catastrophic humanitarian crises around the world

\*WI FI Alliance 3925 W. Braker Ln. Austin, TX 78759 512-305-0790 Fax: 512-305-0791 http://www.wi-fi.org

A global, non-profit organization with the goal of driving the adoption of a single worldwide-accepted standard for high-speed wireless local area networking

#### WITI Foundation (Women in Technology International) http://www.witi.com/austin/

Nation's leading trade association for professional, tech-savvy women committed to using technology, resources and connections to advance women worldwide.

### World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Austin Chapter 4425 S Mo Pac Expy # 202 Austin, TX 78735

512-892-6411 http://www.wbcsd.org/

Provides a global platform for companies to explore sustainable development, share knowledge, experiences and best practices, and to advocate business positions on these issues in a variety of forums, working with governments, non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations

## **Visitors and Travelers**

\*Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau 301 Congress Avenue, Ste. 200 Austin, TX 78701 1-800-926-ACVB http://www.austintexas.org/

\*GlobalAustin 201 E Second St. Austin, TX 78701 512-505-4079 Fax: 512-505-4078 http://globalaustin.org Intercultural services for international students and visitors