



Edna Moore of Western Onion Sales in Camarillo receives a certificate from Supervisor John Zaragoza at the G.E.T. Trade graduation.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**INTERNATIONAL TRADE PROGRAM OPENS A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY
FOR AREA BUSINESSES**

Third G.E.T. Trade Session Showcases Program's Success

CAMARILLO, Calif.– According to the Small Business Administration

(www.sba.gov), “Nearly 96 percent of consumers and over two-thirds of the world’s

purchasing power reside outside the U.S.” To tap into this influential market, nine

Ventura County business leaders completed the Economic Development Collaborative-

Ventura County's 12-week Global Entrepreneur Training in Trade (G.E.T. Trade) program to expand their knowledge of international trade opportunities. Supervisor John Zaragoza gave the remarks at the graduation ceremony held Jan. 11 at the Hampton Inn in Camarillo.

"This was our third session of G.E.T. Trade and, like the previous sessions, resulted in several import and export transactions. I've had students repeatedly tell me that the resources they learned about in the program helped them be more confident in tackling global opportunities," said Mary Anne Rooney, program director.

This session's G.E.T. Trade graduates included Dan Walton, Crime Point; Jane Semones, Marine Emporium Landing; Edward Dent; Scott Carlson and Paula Muesse, Zhen's Gypsy Tea; Edna Moore and Gerry Valois, Western Onion Sales; Carlos Leyva, Alexis Bridal; and Ed Campbell, USA Architects and Engineers.

The next G.E.T. Trade session begins Feb. 15. For more information, contact Rooney at 805-384-1800 ext. 25 or gettradeinfo@edc-vc.com.

G.E.T. Trade was designed to increase Ventura County business profit and job creation through import/export trade, expand awareness of international trade opportunities and improve economic sustainability. It will also increase the region's economic competitiveness by promoting business growth through improved access to global markets and international trade. A collaboration between EDC-VC, the World Trade Center and the Port of Hueneme, Oxnard Harbor District, the program aims to establish the Ventura County region as a nationally recognized innovator in global trade.

EDC-VC is a private, nonprofit organization that serves as a business-to-government liaison to assist businesses in Ventura County by offering programs that

enhance the economic vitality of the region. For more information about other services available to small businesses through the EDC-VC, contact Bruce Stenslie, president/CEO, at 805-384-1800, ext. 21, bruce.stenslie@edc-vc.com or visit www.edc-vc.com.