



Corporate Communications

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\$80 Million in Business Opportunities Garner Diversity Recognition for AAFES

DALLAS – For the second year in a row the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) has been recognized by DiversityBusiness.com as one of America’s Top Government Organizations for multicultural business opportunities.

The annual list is produced by DiversityBusiness.com, the nations’ leading multicultural B-to-B Internet Web site. More than 600,000 diversity businesses owners had the opportunity to participate in an online election to determine the “Top” agencies. The honor recognizes 20 government agencies and 50 corporations, and is collectively called the Div50. The business owners based their decisions on such factors as the volume, consistency and quality of business opportunities granted. AAFES garnered recognition due to the fact that it did more than \$80 million worth of business with women-, minority- and Veteran-owned companies in 2007.

“AAFES works diligently to ensure a diverse product mix is represented in our stores,” said AAFES’ Commander Brig. Gen. Keith L. Thurgood. “Having the right product, at the right price and at the right time is what our customers expect, and what they deserve. Tapping into all sources just makes good business sense.”

AAFES, along with the other winning companies, will be honored at a special awards ceremony at DiversityBusiness.com’s 8th Annual Multicultural Business Conference in Las Vegas in April.

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The Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) is a joint command of the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force, and is directed by a Board of Directors who is responsible to the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force through the Service Chiefs of Staff. AAFES has the dual mission of providing authorized patrons with articles of merchandise and services and of generating non-appropriated fund earnings as a supplemental source of funding for military Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) programs. To find out more about AAFES' history and mission or to view recent press releases please visit our Web site at <http://www.aafes.com/pa/default.asp>.

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Media Notes:

For more information or to schedule an interview with an AAFES representative please contact Chris Ward, 214-312-2714 or wardchr@aafes.com.