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Workshop ~ Panel

Monday, May 9 and Tuesday, May 10

MaineTech 2005 -- Augusta Civic Center

The Maine Technology Institute invites researchers, entrepreneurs and small business owners to three interactive events aimed at helping them compete in the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs (SBIR / STTR).

MTI's special guest will be Siva Sureshwaran, Ph.D., the National Program Leader for SBIR at the United States Department of Agriculture. Part of MaineTech 2005, Tuesday's events cost \$25.

USDA, SBIR & You – Pathway to Commercialization of Your Idea

2:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Monday

USDA funds up to \$430,000 per award for R&D in forestry and agriculture, aquaculture, animal production and protection, air, water and soil, food science, nutrition, rural and community development, marketing and trade, industrial applications, plant production and protection, and animal waste management. Dr. Sureshwaran will discuss his agency's SBIR program and anticipated research topics. Click [USDA workshop](#) to register or call Karen West at 845-2934. This event is free.

Attracting Federal Funding for Your New and Innovative Technology

8:00 – 10 a.m. on Tuesday

Dr. Sureshwaran will join Karen West, of C&P Management Services, to discuss how researchers and small businesses can identify suitable topics across the 11 participating federal agencies, articulate the significance of an innovation, and submit a competitive proposal. Register at www.mainetechshow.com.

Moderated SBIR Panel Discussion

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday

Three Maine small businesses (Phase I and II winners) will discuss how SBIR/STTR has helped move their technology from concept to commercialization. Along with Dr. Sureshwaran, the panel will take questions from the audience. Register at www.mainetechshow.com.

The federal SBIR/STTR programs comprise a \$2 billion opportunity for small businesses to conduct research and develop innovative ideas. Program features include:

- Up to \$850,000 for development of promising technologies
- No repayment of grant money
- Free MTI proposal guidance and assistance

