PHILADELPHIA, PA – On July 27, Congressman Jim Gerlach will meet with officials from the U.S. Commercial Service and the Pennsylvania SBDC to launch an Export Promotion Partner MOU to increase awareness in the Pennsylvania business community about export opportunities and the tools and resources to help them succeed. The SBDC supports Pennsylvania’s economic development by providing entrepreneurs and small businesses with individual consultation, comprehensive education and information necessary to help their businesses start, grow, and prosper. Through this agreement, Pennsylvania SBDCs across the state will seek to collaborate with their local U.S. Commercial Service offices on trade promotion and outreach activities in their communities.

Please join the Pennsylvania SBDC, the U.S. Commercial Service, and U.S. Congressman Jim Gerlach to officially launch this partnership initiative to generate new opportunities for more Pennsylvania exports and workers to help secure America’s future in this increasingly competitive world.

**WHO:** U.S. Congressman Jim Gerlach
Pennsylvania SBDC State Director Christian Conroy
CS Officials

**WHAT:** CS/Pennsylvania SBDC Export Promotion Partner MOU

**WHEN:** July 27, 2012 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m., Press interviews at 10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** Analytical Graphics, Inc., 220 Valley Creek Blvd., Exton, PA 19341

Media Coverage: This event is open to the press. To RSVP, please contact Tony Ceballos, Antonio.ceballos@trade.gov (215) 597-7141 or Kelly Cofrancisco, kcofran@wharton.upenn.edu (215) 746-6474.

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(MORE)
About Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)
The Pennsylvania Small Business Development Centers (SBDC) supports the economic development of Pennsylvania by providing entrepreneurs and small businesses with individual consultation, comprehensive education and information necessary to help their businesses start, grow, and prosper. SBDCs deliver consulting services and educational programs through a network of 18 locations across Pennsylvania. SBDC consultants work with entrepreneurs in confidential, one-to-one sessions to help them with issues including new business development, shaping a business plan, investigating funding opportunities, and much more. For more information on the Pennsylvania SBDC services and impact, please visit www.pasbdc.org.

International Trade Administration
The International Trade Administration (ITA) is the premier resource for American companies competing in the global marketplace. ITA has 2,100 employees assisting U.S. exporters in more than 100 U.S. cities and 77 countries worldwide. For more information on ITA visit www.trade.gov.