

CHAMBER OF THE AMERICAS DENVER NAMED TO OPIC'S PARTNERS PROGRAM

Chamber of the Americas has been named the newest member of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation's Partners Program, a public diplomacy initiative designed to expand knowledge of OPIC's role as the U.S. Government's development finance institution. Chamber of the Americas, which facilitates business relationships, promotes international networking and encourages cultural understanding through trade missions, executive forums, town halls, and educational classes, served as a co-sponsor of OPIC's *Expanding Horizons* seminar in Denver last October, which educated more than 100 American small businesses about the resources available from OPIC to help them compete in the global marketplace.

Through the Partners Program, OPIC works with selected trade, business and foreign policy organizations nationwide to increase public knowledge of OPIC's work. By utilizing the resources of geographically diverse organizations with different memberships, information about OPIC is disseminated to a larger audience.

"OPIC is extremely pleased to add Chamber of the Americas to our Partners Program," said OPIC Director of Outreach Dr. Lawrence Spinelli. "OPIC and Chamber of the Americas share the same goal – helping American businesses grow by entering the global marketplace. As a vital informational resource for local companies looking to expand, the Chamber of the Americas will serve as an ideal point of contact for businesses which could benefit from OPIC's products and services. We look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship."

Chamber of the Americas offers strategic business planning, positioning, evaluations, and structure to businesses that are entering or expanding in America's marketplace. The Chambers' mission is to build and strengthen relationships with individuals and organizations in order to facilitate trade and investment that strengthen local economies.

Gil Cisneros, chairman and CEO of Chamber of the Americas stated, "The Chamber looks forward to a productive and successful alliance with OPIC's Partners Program. This adds a strategic dimension in our commitment to foster a spirit of harmony and economic empowerment and justice in the Americas."

Since 1971, OPIC has helped U.S. businesses of all sizes expand in emerging markets, and is open for business in more than 160 countries. OPIC operates on a self-sustaining basis at no net cost to American taxpayers. OPIC has supported nearly \$200 billion of investments and operates on a self-sustaining basis at no cost to American taxpayers. To date, OPIC has provided \$1.7 billion in support to Colorado businesses investing in emerging markets ranging from agriculture to energy to infrastructure.

The Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) is a self-sustaining U.S. Government agency that helps American businesses invest in emerging markets. Established in 1971, OPIC provides businesses with the tools to manage the risks associated with foreign direct investment, fosters economic development in emerging market countries, and advances U.S. foreign policy and national security priorities. OPIC helps American businesses gain footholds in new markets,

catalyzes new revenues and contributes to jobs and growth opportunities both at home and abroad. OPIC fulfills its mission by providing businesses with financing, political risk insurance, advocacy and by partnering with private equity investment fund managers.

OPIC services are available to new and expanding businesses planning to invest in more than 160 countries worldwide. Because OPIC charges market-based fees for its products, it operates on a self-sustaining basis at no net cost to taxpayers. All OPIC projects must adhere to best international practices and cannot cause job loss in the United States.