



PRESS RELEASE

Bridge Bank Client Named SBA Small Business Person of the Year

Doris Patterson of Smart Products Wins Award for the San Francisco SBA District

Santa Clara, CA – May 8, 2003 – Bridge Bank, National Association (NASDAQ: BBNK), Santa Clara County’s newest full-service business bank, teamed-up with the Silicon Valley Biz Ink and the U.S. Small Business Administration to present the 2003 SBA Small Business Person of the Year Award in the San Francisco SBA District to Doris Patterson, Founder and CEO of Smart Products, Inc. The event was held at the San Jose Hyatt on Thursday, May 8, with more than 250 people in attendance.

“Without the SBA Loan Program and lenders like Ralph Barnett, I would not be where I am today,” commented Doris Patterson. “Receiving the SBA loan literally saved the company and because of the loan, today Smart Products is a growing, thriving firm that employs over forty people.”

Candidates for the Small Business Person of the Year are nominated by business associates and undergo a lengthy application process. Ms. Patterson was nominated by Ralph Barnett, Executive Vice President and Manager of the SBA Loan Group at Bridge Bank. Smart Products is a client of Bridge Bank.

“It is for people like Doris Patterson, and firms like Smart Products, that Bridge Bank established its SBA Loan Group,” stated Mr. Barnett. “The SBA loan program provides the bank a great deal of flexibility in providing financing solutions for small businesses. Often times as a lender, the fundamentals alone of a credit request don’t allow a lender to provide what is needed; the SBA program allows us to look beyond just the numbers and instead focus on the individual and business plan potential behind the request.”

May 4 - 10, 2003 is National Small Business Week in the United States. Sponsored by the U.S. Small Business Administration, Small Business Week recognizes exceptional small business owners for their personal achievement and contributions to the US economy.

“Small Business Week is our opportunity to recognize and congratulate the accomplishments of small businesses everywhere,” said Mark Quinn, Director of the San Francisco District of the SBA. “Doris Patterson represents what the SBA looks for in small businesses; a business that is not only successful in operations, but one that also gives something back to both its employees and to the community.”

The following Small Business advocate awards are presented in each SBA District: Entrepreneurial Success, Exporter of the Year, Financial Services Advocate, Small Business Journalist, Minority Business Advocate, Women in Business Advocate, Veterans Advocate, Young Entrepreneur, and Small Business Person of the Year.

Bridge Bank is an SBA Preferred Lender and received this accreditation from the U.S. Small Business Administration in one of the shortest application times awarded any bank. It’s current level of SBA lending activity ranks Bridge Bank among the top 10% of SBA bank lenders in both the San Francisco and Sacramento SBA Districts as well as the entire State of California.

About Smart Products, Inc.

Smart Products, located in San Jose, designs, manufactures, and distributes small, low pressure, low flow check valves, pumps and fittings for equipment manufactures in the automotive, food & beverage, medical and recreational equipment sectors. For more information, visit their website at www.smartproducts.com.

About the SBA

The U.S. Small Business Administration, established in 1953, provides financial, technical and management assistance to help Americans start, run, and grow their businesses. With a portfolio of business loans, loan guarantees and disaster loans worth more than \$45 billion, in addition to a venture capital portfolio of \$13 billion, the SBA is the nation’s largest single financial backer of small businesses. Last year, the SBA offered management and technical assistance to more than one million small business owners. The SBA also plays a major role in the government’s disaster relief efforts by making low-interest recovery loans to both homeowners and businesses.

About Bridge Bank, N.A.

Bridge Bank is Santa Clara County’s newest full-service business bank. The Bank is dedicated to meeting the financial needs of small and middle-market businesses in the Silicon Valley, Palo Alto, and the Sacramento business communities. Bridge Bank provides clients with a comprehensive package of business banking solutions delivered through experienced and professional bankers. Visit Bridge Bank on the Web at www.bridgebank.com.

Forward Looking Statement

Certain matters discussed in this press release constitute forward looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, and are subject to the safe harbors created by that Act. These forward looking statements relate to the Company’s current expectations regarding future operating results and growth in loans, deposits, and assets. These forward looking statements are subject to certain risks and uncertainties that could cause the actual results, performance or achievements to differ materially from those expressed, suggested or implied by the forward looking statements.

These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to: (1) the impact of changes in interest rates, a decline in economic conditions and increased competition among financial service providers on the Company’s results of operations, (2) the Company’s ability to continue its internal growth rate, (3) the Company’s ability to build net interest spread, (4) the quality of the Company’s earning assets, and (5) government regulations.

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