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UA62/3 December Newsletter

WKU Small Business Development Center

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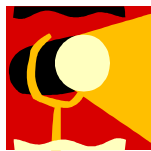
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Rick Horn, Director of the WKU SBDC accepts the traveling trophy for the SBDC in Kentucky that shows outstanding performance for the previous fiscal year. The WKU SBDC exceeded their goals by 300% for the period of Oct. 1, 2006 thru Sept 30, 2007. We at the SBDC are extremely proud of our achievements. These goals could not have been achieved without the team effort of the staff and student interns. We are very proud of our student interns and the addition they have made in our office.



Spotlighting SBDC Client

Extreme home makeover house unveiled in Louisville

Courier Journal, Nov. 14, 2007 by Angie Fenton

The 19-year-old, who was born without eyes, was able to feel what his family could see: a new home designed and constructed in 105 hours by the ABC show's cast and crew and hundreds of local volunteers with the goal of making it easily accessible for him.

The Extreme Makeover crew selected Patrick Henry Hughes and his family to be the recipients of the show's 108th renovated residence.

One of the most amazing aspects of the house is a verbal-command automation system that has been installed in Patrick's portion of the 3,200-square-foot home. It was donated by EyeOn Automation, a division of Hitcents, which is based in Bowling Green, Ky.

"We felt our system was a perfect fit for him," said Hitcents president Chris Mills, 25, who owns the company with his brother, CEO Clinton Mills.

The home is equipped with technology that is able to respond to 350 verbal commands, from opening doors to changing the channel on the flat-screen [television](#) to telling the time or outside temperature.

"The coolest thing is ... Patrick can say, 'Computer goodnight'" and the system prepares the home for bedtime, Chris Mills said. It shuts off or dims lights, makes sure the doors are locked and will even play mellow nighttime music.

The technology cost "over six figures" and required 10 to 15 workers nearly around the clock for three weeks to have the system customized and ready.

"It was just a lot of dedication, but it was something we all wanted to happen," Mills said.



Client of the Month

Assessment Services of Kentucky, LLC (A.s.K.)

Assessment Services of Kentucky, LLC (**AsK**) is a new inspection, rework and containment company based in Glasgow, Kentucky. AsK performs inspections on products based on a supplier's requirements, then provides suppliers the results about defects in their products. Major automotive companies like Toyota, Ford, GM, Chrysler, and Honda have used the type of containment system that AsK provides for its customers

AsK has the advantage of being owned and operated by individuals who have worked directly with similar companies and have more than forty (40) years of combined experience in manufacturing. The company is also woman owned and is in the process of applying for disadvantaged business status. Kelly Christian began her business in October 2005, at that time she had a partner who has since left the business and Kelly is now the sole owner.

When asked about her business, Kelly's response was: "The business is not all about me. The employees are like family and instead of me being a millionaire, I want all of us to make money. The employees are why I'm here and I love to go and work side by side with them when I can"

No Seminars in December

Happy Holidays from the WKU SBDC



Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. Reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact [Chris Bixler, 247 Double Springs Rd, (271)843-6071