

## Minerva Engineering Wins 2014 DoD Nunn-Perry Award

Hanover, MD – February 5, 2015



Minerva Engineering is very proud to announce that it is the recipient of the 2014 Nunn-Perry Award.

The prestigious Award, named in honor of former Senator Sam Nunn and former Secretary of Defense William Perry, was first awarded in 1995 to recognize outstanding Mentor-Protégé teams formed under the auspices of the DoD Mentor-Protégé program. The Nunn-Perry Award is presented to honor Mentor-Protégé teams who have excelled in the areas of technical assistance, returns on investment, quality and Protégé development. Minerva Engineering received the notification from the Department of Defense (DoD) Office of Small Business Programs Deputy Director, Technology and Innovation, Mr. Kenyata Wesley who stated that the competition is extremely keen every year and that this year was no exception for the evaluation team. The awards will be formally presented at the Nunn-Perry Awards Ceremony on March 12 at the Mark Center in Alexandria, VA.

Minerva Engineering and Leidos teamed on the Mentor-Protégé program under the US Army's program. Over the years, Leidos' award-winning Mentor-Protégé program has produced strategic teaming relationships that expand capabilities and create opportunities for both the Protégé and the Mentor. This spirit of engaged collaboration continued with Minerva Engineering and over the last three years the arrangement has brought value to both companies. Already a well-established company, Minerva benefited from Mentor support in the areas of formal and informal employee training; customer diversification engagements; and financial and human resource business process assessments to support the development of strategies to enhance overall corporate stability and financial health.

"The Mentor-Protégé program has always been important to us and we were very happy to team with Leidos" stated Robert La Bella, Minerva's President. "It was a relationship that made a lot of sense for each of us because we had similar customers in a variety of geographic regions and because we had a long standing relationship already in place. We were very comfortable with one another."

Don Holmes, Minerva's CEO offered "While we were already a well-established company with a lot of mature processes and infrastructure, the Mentor-Protégé program helped us to mature the capability of our staff through a variety of training initiatives as well as help us get access to a broad range of other customers in support of our diversity initiatives".

Mr. Holmes went on to add “We can’t underestimate the value of the assessments that Leidos provided in the areas of our corporate financial health and human resources which was particularly beneficial considering the kind of growth we experienced during the MP program and that we expect to continue in 2015”.

Minerva Engineering experienced significant growth during the period of performance from October 2011 to September 2014 in its employee base, business facilities, and awarded DoD prime contracts. The Leidos Mentor-Protégé relationship strengthened Minerva’s capabilities, enhancing its position as a highly competitive DoD contractor for Cyber Operations, Information Assurance & Trust Engineering, Cryptographic Systems Development, Software Engineering, Systems Engineering, and Program Management. During the Mentor-Protégé program, Minerva doubled its staff size and achieved significant increases in both revenue and NET.

Mr. La Bella commented that “In our case, the Mentor-Protégé program can only be described as a success for the Mentor, Protégé, the associated HBCU and the Army and I would highly recommend that any small businesses looking to have a Mentor point out the pot holes in the road of business growth consider getting involved in the MP program”.

Minerva Engineering is a verified Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) providing information security products and services that support defense in depth strategies featuring technologies and processes to harden, defend and secure complex systems for the Intelligence Community, Department of Defense and other federal agencies. Minerva specializes in defensive cyber operations and information security including information assurance, risk assessment and mitigation, vulnerability assessment and penetration testing, secure network engineering, operations and maintenance and defensive network operations. With a demonstrated history of performance, cost and schedule success, Minerva’s experienced, innovative & professionally dedicated multi-disciplinary engineering team of “Integrationeers” mitigates program risk and changes problem areas into success areas. Minerva is headquartered in Hanover, MD and is hiring for a large variety of open positions. For more information, visit [www.minervaengineering.com](http://www.minervaengineering.com).