

CRAIN'S

SMALL BUSINESS FORUM

Growing Your Business: Crain's Third Annual Women Business Owners Tell All

Wednesday, March 23, 2005
7:45am to 10:00am
Mid America Club, 80th Floor
200 E. Randolph Dr.
Chicago, IL 60601

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► Session moderator



Ann Dwyer
Assistant Managing Editor
Crain's Chicago Business

Ann Dwyer is an editor at Crain's Chicago Business and sits in as a contributing editor each day on WBBM-AM radio's "Noon Business Hour."

► Panel speakers



Angelika Coghlan
President & Managing Partner
Catwalk Consulting

For over 18 years, Ms. Coghlan has been providing the link between business needs and technological realities for banks and insurance companies, hospitals, ad agencies, and manufactures. Coghlan leverages a broad skill set of technical expertise with a business savvy able to translate complex business needs into systems solutions that work. In 2003, Enterprising Women Magazine presented Coghlan with the Enterprising Women of the Year Award for heading-up a growing technology consulting firm and for an active contribution to many businesses and youth organizations.



Lisa Johnson
Chief Executive Officer
Gourmet Kitchens, Inc. (GKI)

Ms. Johnson co-founded GKI in 1989 and began marketing her business as Last Minute Gourmet, a corporate caterer. In 2001, Johnson diversified the company and began manufacturing premium food products and solutions serving retail chains and specialty markets. GKI has a 70,000 sq. ft. state-of-the-art kitchen and warehouse serving grocery chains and convenient stores. Johnson sits on many boards including National Association of Women Business Owners, Industrial Council of Nearwest Chicago, the Women's Leadership Exchange and is a panelist for PricewaterhouseCoopers Trendsetter Barometer "200 Fastest Growing Businesses".



Deborah M. Sawyer
Founder, President & CEO
Environmental Design International, Inc . (EDI)

Ms. Sawyer is also an environmental scientist and Certified Hazardous Materials Manager of EDI, an engineering firm specializing in solid, toxic, and hazardous waste management and civil engineering services. Sawyer began her career at Waste Group at URS Corporation booking \$1 million in projects within first six months. Sawyer landed other senior positions and sat on company boards before founding EDI in 1991. Today EDI has a staff of 60 and annual revenues of nearly \$6 million. Sawyer received SBA's Minority Small Business Person of the Year award at the district, regional and national levels and most recently Sawyer was appointed by Mayor Richard M. Daley to the City of Chicago Lake Michigan Commission.



Marsha Serlin
Founder & CEO
United Scrap Metal, Inc.

In 1978, Ms. Serlin, a divorced mother of two with only \$200 to her name, launched United Scrap Metal. Today, United Scrap is a leading processor/manufacturer and recycler of metals with over 100 employees, 300 pieces of equipment, and over \$40 million in revenues. Serlin has been featured in print, radio and TV appearances on CNN and CNBC. In 2000 Serlin was appointed to Governor Ryan's Task Force on Recycling and serves on many other local boards including Board of Directors, CARE, Inc.; Founding member, Adopt-A-Room program; Advisory Board for Working Woman Magazine, 2000; and Cook County Commissioner on Women's Issues.