

Biometrics leaders to discuss opportunities

MORGANTOWN
By Kelly Barth

European conference first of kind in state

Leaders from the European biometrics industry are meeting here this week to discuss business opportunities, hear from U.S. biometrics experts and explore possible business partnerships during a conference at the Radisson Hotel, Waterfront Place.

The West Virginia High Technology Consortium Foundation and the West Virginia Development Office are hosting what will be the first European biometrics conference held in West Virginia. Organizers have said the event may also be the largest delegation of foreign-based companies ever to visit the state for a single event.

"We're proud to partner with the West Virginia Development Office to bring this significant group of leaders in the biometrics industry together," said James L. Estep, WVHTC Foundation President and CEO.

"West Virginia has been referred to as the biometrics hub in the U.S., and it's appropriate that a conference of this caliber takes place here where there are so many biometrics assets," Estep said.

The conference is called U.S. Commercial Opportunities for European Biometrics Companies: "Opening New Market and Enhancing Competitiveness."

"Leaders of European biometrics companies interested in expanding or entering the U.S. marketplace will meet U.S. integrators, solution providers and federal government buyers," said Jack Gocke, director of WVDP's European Office, said.

"This conference will provide unique and important opportunities for all attendees."

"We're pleased to present speakers from the Department of Defense, National Security Agency, FBI and West Virginia University, among others," Estep said.

"This is a quality conference, and we're confident the result will be newly forged relationships, sharing knowledge and new business opportunities."

The conference runs Tuesday through Thursday.

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