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PROSIDIAN SELECTED TO COHORT 11 OF 2014 GOLDMAN SACHS 10K SMALL BUSINESSES PROGRAM

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PROSIDIAN SELECTED TO COHORT 11 OF 2014 GOLDMAN SACHS 10,000 SMALL BUSINESSES PROGRAM IN HOUSTON TEXAS

Charlotte, North Carolina – ProSidian Consulting, LLC ProSidian Consulting has been selected to participate in for Cohort 11 of The 2014 Goldman Sachs (GS) 10,000 Small Businesses Program in Houston Texas. The 10,000 Small Businesses is a \$500 million investment to help small businesses in the United States create jobs and economic growth by providing entrepreneurs with a practical executive business education, greater access to financial capital, and business support services.

In Partnership with Houston Community College (HCC), one of the nation's largest community colleges and Babson College (www.babson.edu), one of the nation's leading schools for entrepreneurs the goal of The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program ([#GS10SBProgram](https://www.goldmansachs.com/citizenship/#GS10SBProgram)) is designed to help grow businesses and create jobs in the community. Business owners targeted have a business poised for growth and include but are not limited to: business revenues between \$150K and \$4Million in most recent fiscal year, in operation for greater than two (2) years; at least four (4) full time employees; a business model that could scale to create more jobs.

The selection process chooses from an array of competitive applicants and only 30 of over 150 business owners who applied were selected for Cohort 11 in Houston Texas. The program is currently active in nineteen (19) sites: Chicago, Cleveland, Detroit, Houston, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Miami, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia, The National Cohort at Babson College, Kentucky, Maine, Montana, Oregon/Washington, Tennessee, Virginia, London England, and Salt Lake City. It will continue to expand on a city-by-city basis.

According to the Small Business Administration (www.sba.gov), Small Businesses have generated 64 percent of net new jobs over the past 15 years. They represent 99.7 percent of all employer firms, hire 40 percent of high tech workers, and produce 13 times more patents per employee than large patenting firms. The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program is designed to tap into that economic power by providing entrepreneurs across the country with the resources they need to grow and create jobs. Recent graduates of the program have realized material successes with 69% having increased revenues, 51% created new jobs in the communities they operate, and 80% reported strategic collaboration with various Cohort Companies.

ProSidian is a management and operations consulting firm with a reputation for its strong national practice spanning six solution areas including Risk Management, Compliance, Business Process, Energy & Sustainability, IT Effectiveness, and Talent Management. We help clients improve operations critical to business success. Launched by former Big 4 Management Consultants; our multidisciplinary teams bring together the talents of nearly 190 professionals nationally to complete a wide variety of engagements for private companies and government agencies of all sizes.

Adrian Woolcock, Managing Principal of ProSidian Consulting states, *“Our participation in the Goldman Sachs (GS) 10,000 Small Businesses Program serves as a catalyst in building and nurturing the mission to provide a Structured Approach to Strategic Solutions tailored to the client's needs and objectives while maintaining a continued commitment to practices that recognize the central role that business plays in society.”* *“We serve clients who make a difference in their markets, influence their industries/sectors, and commit to continuing improvement.”*

“This program can provide Prosidian with valuable training and support in Contract Negotiations, Capital Finance Readiness, Human Resource Management and Opportunity Assessments that align with a strong track record to help Prosidian and Adrian Woolcock (Managing Principal) develop a growth plan tailored to transcend the inflection point of growth.” - **Terry Thornton (Vice President | Goldman, Sachs & Co.)**. *“The evolution of Prosidian has witnessed the firm's strategic growth through a culture where team dynamics, respect for the individual, entrepreneurial spirit, and excellence in client service form the cornerstones of Prosidian Consulting”* - **Eyassu Menelik (Vice President, Energy Banking \ Regions financial Corporation)**.

This accomplishment will enhance ProSidian's strategy for growth in the private sector and reinforce our value proposition for public sector engagements. *“I view our participation in the Goldman Sachs Program as an opportunity to re-engage the thriving and dynamic Houston business environment. As a Rice University and University Of Houston alumni, it's almost like coming home.”* – **Adrian Woolcock (Managing Principal | ProSidian Consulting)**. Adrian began his

professional career at Enron Corporation in Houston, Texas, after earning his B.A. in Business Management and Sports Management from Rice University in 1996. From there, he earned an MBA in Finance at the University Of Houston Bauer College Of Business. Prior to forming ProSidian, Adrian spent over sixteen (16) years in the Oil, Gas, Electric, and Utilities industry in the area of risk management, structuring, power/gas commodity pricing, energy trading/scheduling, purchasing, and special projects.

In 2008 Adrian Woolcock (Managing Principal) launched ProSidian with a firm focus on excellence in client service and a culture where team dynamics, respect for the individual, and the entrepreneurial spirit form key cornerstones of the business. The firm's core offerings are aligned with the drivers of economic profit (growth, margin and efficiency), and deployed across the client's entire value chain. These core offerings target varying aspects of a client's value chain across the enterprise and at the intersections of assets, processes, policies and people delivering value.

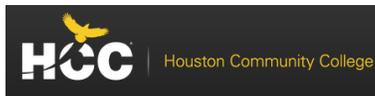
Established as a forum to foster peer-to-peer engagement and opportunities between 10KSB participants as they grow their businesses and drive job creation, The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses initiative aims to unlock the potential for growth and job creation of small businesses and social enterprises through providing the resources to grow, including greater access to business education and business support services.

GS10K Small Businesses Cohorts receive one-on-one business advising from dedicated professionals to help them develop a strategic and tailored plan for growth. Additional support services are offered to participants through partnerships with national and local business organizations, professional services firms and the people of Goldman Sachs. Participants will be placed into small Growth Groups and work with their teammates for the duration of the program to explore, practice and implement the knowledge and skills they develop and to seize new business opportunities and overcome common challenges to business growth.



ABOUT THE GOLDMAN SACHS 10,000 SMALL BUSINESSES PROGRAM

The Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program (#GS10SBProgram) is designed to help grow businesses and create jobs in the community. Business owners targeted have a business poised for growth and include but are not limited to: business revenues between \$150K and \$4Million in most recent fiscal year, in operation for greater than two (2) years; at least four (4) full time employees; a business model that could scale to create more jobs. Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses at Houston Community College is a practical business management education program that helps small business owners develop the skills they need to grow their companies. Participants will receive one-on-one business advising from dedicated professionals to help them develop a tailored plan for growth. **Learn more about the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program at www.goldmansachs.com/citizenship/**



ABOUT HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Houston Community College is an open-admission, public institution of higher education offering a high-quality, affordable education for academic advancement, workforce training, career and economic development, and lifelong learning to prepare individuals in our diverse communities for life and work in a global and technological society. The Vision of HCC is to be the most relevant community college in the country. The Houston Community College System is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award the associate degree. The HCC Office of Entrepreneurial Initiatives was established to build and sustain the Houston business community through effective and relevant educational initiatives to help businesses grow in revenue, personnel and business opportunities. The Office of Entrepreneurial Initiatives leads and coordinates all business and entrepreneurial initiatives by providing system wide support, and leadership to fulfill HCC's Strategic Agenda to "Cultivate and Entrepreneurial Culture Across the Institution. **Learn more about the Houston Community College at www.hccs.edu**



ABOUT BABSON COLLEGE

Babson College is a private business school located in Wellesley, Massachusetts near Boston. Founded in 1919, the school centers its offering around entrepreneurship and offers bachelors and masters degrees. Babson College was founded by Roger Babson on September 3, 1919, as the Babson Institute. It was renamed "Babson College" in 1969. Believing experience to be the best teacher, Roger Babson favored a curriculum that was a combination of both class work and business training: businessmen made up the majority of the faculty instead of academics, and the institute's curriculum focused more on practical experience. Babson College is the educator for Entrepreneurship of All Kinds™. In rankings, Babson was rated #1 among all colleges and universities in the nation by Money Magazine in 2014. Babson's MBA program has been ranked #1 in entrepreneurship for 21 consecutive years by U.S. News & World Report, and is ranked #42 overall in the Bloomberg Businessweek 2012 rankings. Babson's undergraduate business program is ranked #26 overall in the Bloomberg Businessweek 2014 rankings. Babson's undergraduate Entrepreneurship program has been ranked #1 for the past 17 years by U.S. News & World Report. In their 2013–2014 salary report, Payscale.com ranked Babson College at #5 of all US Colleges and Universities, ahead of schools such as Stanford, Harvard, Dartmouth, Columbia and Yale. **Learn more about the Babson College at www.babson.edu**



ABOUT PROSIDIAN CONSULTING

Risk Management | Compliance | Business Process | Energy & Sustainability | IT Effectiveness | Talent Management

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Our Services are deployed across the enterprise, target drivers of economic profit (growth, margin and efficiency), and are aligned at the intersections of assets, processes, policies and people delivering value. ProSidian clients represent a broad spectrum of industries to include but are not limited to Manufacturing, Banking & Financial Services, Consumer Products & Retail, Energy & Utilities, Federal State, & Local Government Agencies.

Learn more about ProSidian Consulting at www.ProSidian.com

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