

PRESS RELEASE

Advocating
for small
and medium
security
companies in
the Federal
marketplace

GTSC
Government
Technology &
Services Coalition

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Spencer King
(571)730-9772
sking@GTSCoalition.com

GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY & SERVICES COALITION RECOGNIZES LEADERS IN HOMELAND & NATIONAL SECURITY COMMUNITY

Transportation Security Administration, Pherson Associates, Agilex, Harris, Sara Schroerlucke (CBP), Government Contracting Weekly, and Jim Williams (Schambach & Williams) honored



Left to right: Jim Williams, Schambach & Williams; Jim McCarthy, Government Contracting Weekly; Kathy Pherson, Pherson Associates; Sara Schroerlucke, CBP; Brad Cole, Agilex; Ronald Gallihugh, TSA; Wayne Lucernoni, Harris; Evelyn Tyndell, TSA

Washington, D.C., December 10, --The Government Technology & Services Coalition (GTSC), the premier organization for small and mid-sized companies in homeland and national security recognized numerous public and private sector leaders and innovators in homeland and national security at its 2014 Annual Awards.

“Since our inception we recognize those who despite numerous barriers continue the good fight,” said Kristina Tanasichuk, founder and CEO of the Coalition. “We are very proud to be connected to the leaders

trying to innovate and solve complex, dynamic challenges to achieve the homeland and national security mission. GTSC wants to recognize, reinforce and support the best of those companies and people.”

Since 2012, the Coalition has developed a series of awards to recognize some of the unsung heroes working to improve how the public and private sector collaborate, assuring that innovation and efficiencies can find their way into the government and encouraging an environment of mentorship in support of the nation’s critical homeland and national security missions.

Ronald Gallihugh, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Transportation Security Administration and his procurement team, were recognized as Federal Small Business Champions of the Year; Pherson Associates for Small Business Member of the Year; Agilex as Mid-tier Member of the Year; Harris as Mentor of the Year; Sara Schroerlucke, Program Manager in Customs & Border Protection, as Federal Most Valuable Player; Michelle Mrdeza, Senior Advisor to Cornerstone Government Affairs and founding Strategic Partner of GTSC as Strategic Advisor of the Year; *Government Contracting Weekly* as Strategic Partner of the Year; and Jim Williams, co-founder of Schambach & Williams as the 2014 Market Maven.

“Pherson Associates is proud to work with GTSC on projects that increase innovation and quality in the homeland security and intelligence communities. We appreciate this prestigious recognition of our unique small business’s expertise in helping analysts, operators, and managers enhance their analytic and critical thinking skills,” said Kathy Pherson, CEO, Pherson Associates. “GTSC has made tremendous progress for small businesses – and ALL businesses – that want to contribute to the mission of securing our country. The award is presented to a company that exemplifies exceptional quality and ethics for the Federal government, and advocacy on behalf of our community.

“Since joining GTSC, Agilex has become more and more engaged with the group because of its strong focus on mission, problem solving, and progress. I became more active in GTSC’s leadership as Chair of the Lion’s Den because of our focus on the success of excellent companies – small, mid- and large. The vision is to bring the best of the private sector to the mission needs of our government partners,” said Brad Cole, Vice President, Agilex. “We are very proud to be mid-tier company of the year!” Mid-tier member of the year is presented to the firm that has contributed positively to the opportunities, ideas, and understanding of mid-tier companies in the Federal market.

“Harris has been a partner to GTSC since day one. We believe that the future of security rests with those companies that embrace innovation and change, and strive to bring the most effective solutions to our government partners. We are honored to partner with small businesses, which bring creativity and agility in supporting our customer missions. I am pleased to accept this award on behalf of Harris,” said Wayne Lucernoni, President, Harris IT Services. The Mentor of the Year award is presented to the company that has worked to increase GTSC members’ understanding of the homeland and national security market, increased business opportunities for small companies through formal and informal mentoring and engages to promote an innovative, robust, fair market for all.

“After years of work in Washington, I was very supportive of a non-profit group truly committed to the mission needs of homeland and national security. We need the innovation, creativity, and resourcefulness of ALL companies and GTSC’s focus on nurturing and educating small businesses brings new and fresh players to this critical market,” added Michelle Mrdeza, Strategic Advisor of the Year. “I am excited to see GTSC’s growth and success and am thrilled to have played a role.” The Strategic Advisor of the Year is presented to an individual who works on behalf of GTSC to increase the organization’s capacity, membership and opportunities to bring the innovation, creativity and solutions of small and mid-sized companies to the homeland and national security mission.

Other awardees included Sara Schroerlucke, program manager, Customs & Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security for her work on the ACE program, her stand-up of the operational integration center in Detroit, and her work to establish the Eagle contracts and Enterprise Solutions Office.

“Our partnership with GTSC last year has resulted in a number of exciting programs, panels and new events,” said Jim McCarthy, CEO of AOC Key Solutions and Host, *Government Contracting Weekly*. “Together we have further educated the contracting community on critical homeland and national security issues and we are very excited to be recognized as Strategic Partner of the Year!

The awards, presented at the U.S. Navy League in Arlington, VA, are part of GTSC’s programming to build company capacity in support of the homeland and national security mission. GTSC works on behalf of its members with the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security, Defense, State, Justice and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. For more information on the Government Technology & Services Coalition, please visit www.GTSCoalition.com.

###

The Government Technology & Services Coalition (GTSC) is a nonprofit, non-partisan 501(c)(6) association of companies that create, develop and implement solutions for the federal homeland and national security sector. Our vision is to provide an ethical, effective platform for information exchange between the public and private sector on homeland and national security ideas, technologies and innovations. Our mission is to provide exceptional advocacy, capacity building, partnership opportunities and marketing in the Federal security space for small and mid-sized companies and to support and assist our government partners achieve their critical missions with the highest integrity; best and most innovative technologies; and results-based, quality products and services to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to and recover from any terrorist attack or natural disaster. For more information on these mentors and the Government Technology & Services Coalition, please visit www.GTSCoalition.com.