Ten Reasons We’re Sweet on Washington Small Businesses

Small businesses are the heart of Washington’s economy. This Valentine’s Day, the SBA Seattle District Office is sending them this valentine with the top 10 reasons why we love small business.

Small businesses in Washington...

1. Care about their communities – More than 574,400 small businesses are located in nearly every community and neighborhood in the state.
2. Provide opportunities – Washington small businesses employ 1.3 million people, or 51.4 percent of the private workforce.
3. Create jobs – Two out of every three new jobs created in the U.S. are from small businesses.
4. Grow the global economy – 89.7 percent of Washington exporters are small firms.
5. Represent the diversity of America – Approximately 92,700 small businesses in Washington are owned by minorities.
6. Employ more than half the workforce – Small businesses in Washington employed 1.3 million people in the state’s private workforce in 2010.
7. Lead the way for female entrepreneurs – Self-employed women in Washington outpace the national number of self-employed women at 8.7 percent.
8. Drive innovation – Small patenting firms produce 13 to 14 times more patents per employee than large patenting firms.
9. Create opportunities for flexible work and lifestyles – Home-based businesses account for 53 percent of all small businesses.
10. Inspire us – Small business owners work countless hours, sacrifice their personal time and assets, improve their communities and follow their dreams.