

## Natel is awarded the United States Small Business Association “Regional Subcontractor of the Year”

1 October 2003, Chatsworth, CA:



Natel Engineering was awarded the “**Regional Subcontractor of the Year**” Award from the US Small Business Administration (SBA) for meeting and exceeding all of its contractual obligations to our federal customers. Natel won Region IX (California, Nevada, Arizona & Hawaii) among ten regional winners in the country. They were nominated by the Government and Prime Contractors for superior performance in the areas of cost, quality, schedule and technical competence. Natel was invited to the National Entrepreneurial Conference & Expo in Washington, DC (Sept 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>) to receive the award. The Award Ceremony this year coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the SBA.

The events were kicked off with a dinner hosted by Raytheon, (Natel’s sponsor for the award) in honor of Natel Engineering. Sudesh Arora and Varun Dhingra represented Natel. Bruce Riblett, Gina Walters, Matthew Eckert and Shirley Patterson from Raytheon were also recognized for their effort in promoting such an excellent customer-supplier relationship. A number of Raytheon corporate executives also attended. Benita Fortner (Raytheon Director Supplier Diversity Program) summarized it well: “Not only does Natel have all the elements of a great supplier, good company, good product and technology, but also the right mix of customer understanding. We are very excited about Natel winning the Region IX Award and would like to express our appreciation by recognizing Natel as a valued supplier.”



The events leading up to the Awards Ceremony started on September 17. One of the events was graced by a speech by **Dick Cheney, the Vice President of the United States of America**, who also spoke on behalf of President Bush. In his address, the Vice President said “It is my great honor to be here today on the President’s behalf and congratulate the SBA on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.” He also said “When small businesses prosper, our nation becomes stronger and Americans are more likely to find work. The small business sector is the engine of job creation in America and we have that engine churning full speed. As entrepreneurs, you have shown great pride and determination. Your spirit, your hard work and your faith in the future is making the Nation stronger every day. You have the President’s respect and my own.”

The events were held by the US Small Business administration honoring Natel Engineering, along with other small businesses for their contributions to the nation’s economy and job creation.