

PRESS RELEASE

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Carlos Veliz, PCSI Design, Inc.
Named SBA Minority Small Business Champion of the Year
Celebration honoring winners on April 29th - Marion Oliver McCaw Hall, Seattle Center

SEATTLE – The U.S. Small Business Administration's Seattle District Office has named **Carlos Veliz, President/CEO, Owner, PCSI Design, Inc. in Bothell** as the **2008 Washington State SBA Minority Small Business Champion of the Year**. PCSI Design Inc. is a product design and engineering services company that can prototype, model and build parts or tools for planes, trains, and automobiles and more. Its customers come from aerospace, automotive, medical, electronics, consumer, recreational, fitness, and retail industries.

What do Kenworth trucks, Starbucks coffee bean roasters, Microsoft Xboxes, fish ladders at Puget Sound Energy, and the Navy's F14 Tomcat fighter jets have in common? They all benefited from PCSI Design's expertise in product prototyping, modeling or reverse engineering services. PCSI Design's owner, Carlos Veliz, is a visionary and a dream builder who rose from humble roots to achieve his potential, prosper professionally, and now uses his personal influence to empower others. A bright son of Mexican migrant workers, he made education a priority and studied mechanical tooling engineering. He started PCSI Design in 1997.

Integrity, quality and maintaining the highest standards of customer service are business philosophies shared by Veliz and his staff of 14 employees. Developing strategic partnerships with unique vendors to better serve niche markets has enabled the company to become known as a single source, best-in-class solution provider for its customers. It has a highly regarded reputation for excellence. PCSI Design is an SBA 8(a) and Small Disadvantaged Business certified firm who is a strategic partner of the Boeing Company Supplier Diversity Program. It has grown rapidly in its ten-year history of operation and now supports contracts nationally as well as internationally in Austria and Germany. In 2006, company revenue grew 100 percent; it achieved another impressive revenue increase in 2007 of approximately 46 percent.

Demonstrating his deep commitment to his community, Veliz serves and volunteers with numerous organizations. To name a few; the Everett Mayor's Diversity Task Force; Habitat for Humanities, WA State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and missions to Mexico supporting San Vicente's Mexico Service Missions. He reaches out and donates resources in support of Latino youth. He founded the Lake Stevens Protect Our Nation's Youth (PONY) Baseball Club and mentors through the Snohomish County Minority Achievers program and high school students through Everett Community College Student of Color Conference program. He facilitates information exchanges and pathways to success through his involvement in the Northwest Minority Business Council, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and the Mexican American Engineers and Scientists. His most recent initiative involves establishing a model to work with veterans, returning from Iraq, in helping them to develop business plans using their unique skill set to form their own companies.

Veliz builds bridges between small business and the educational system. He speaks to students at schools and colleges about the importance of having a dream and accepting the hard work and commitment it takes to stay focused on making dreams come true. He established the Carlos Veliz Scholarship Fund to address the needs of local youth and their educational endeavors, and serves as a trustee for Everett Community College. His company actively supports internships with middle school through university-level students to develop a qualified workforce that is prepared for technical, engineering, and manufacturing jobs.

Setting a stellar example of prosperity through hard work and business excellence, proactively providing resources to enhance opportunities, and seeking to inspire others to set goals and pursue similar success are clear reasons why Carlos Veliz of PCSI Design is the 2008 SBA Minority Small Business Champion.