

#### For Immediate Release

MTPE, Inc. (dba ePlanetarium) Named to DiversityBusiness.com's Top 500 Emerging Businesses in the US and to the Top 100 Women-Owned businesses in Texas – for 2013!

**Houston, TX April 2013** Honors have been bestowed upon the nation's finest and brightest entrepreneurs. In recognition of the momentous achievement, DiversityBusiness.com, the nation's leading multicultural social media site, has recently acknowledged MTPE, Inc.as one of the Nation's "Top Businesses" for 2013. This exclusive ranking is a reflection of MTPE's overall vision, leadership and economic accomplishments in moving our economy forward. The award, known as the Div500, represents the most unique class of forward thinking companies who have earned the distinction of fostering a culture of sustainable growth among the communities they serve.

2013 marks DiversityBusiness.com's 13<sup>th</sup> annual listing of **Texas and the Nation's** top businesses. Over 1.3 million businesses participated in this year's program. The "Top Businesses" are determined by a selection committee that evaluates the eligibility for all submissions in each award categories. The selection committee bases their decision on an extensive set of criteria which includes: reviewing each entrant's business profile, website and gross annual sales submitted. The businesses selected on these prestigious lists have become highly coveted among corporations, government agencies and educational institutions who desire to increase opportunities with privately-held businesses.

"We are very proud to continue to support men and women who have become the core of our nation's innovation, productivity and growth", says Kenton Clarke, President & CEO of DiversityBusiness.com. He goes on to add, "I am very optimistic about our future especially as this distinct group of entrepreneurs continue to produce immeasurable results and serve as a prime example for current and generations to come."

"MTPE is proud to be a spinoff from NASA educational investment," said MTPE owner Prof. Patricia Reiff. "We have grown from the initial seed funding of 6 systems to a Discovery Dome network of over 180 installations in 32 countries and 31 states (<a href="http://tinyurl.com/Discdome">http://tinyurl.com/Discdome</a>). The Dome is an exciting educational product where students can experience flying into space or inside the human body. We reach students with our programs in twelve different languages."

#### The List

This List is a classification that represents the top privately-held businesses in the U.S., in sectors such as technology, manufacturing, food service and professional services. The List offers a comprehensive look at the strongest segment in the United States economy- America's privately-held businesses. Large organizational buyers who do business with multicultural, small and

women-owned businesses all use the list. The List has garnered over 20 million annual views since inception.

Honorees will be extended accolades at a special awards ceremony during DiversityBusiness.com's "13th Annual National Business Awards Ceremony and Conference", at Wynn Resort in Las Vegas, Nevada on April 24- April 26, 2013. For more details about the awards ceremony and conference please visit <a href="http://www.DiversityBusiness.com/Conference">http://www.DiversityBusiness.com/Conference</a>

"It is wonderful to be counted among such exciting and diverse winners," said Reiff.

For the complete list of winning companies, please visit: www.diversitybusiness.com

## **About MTPE (dba eplanetarium.com)**

Founded in 1999, MTPE sells planetarium software, hardware, and shows for portable planetariums and fixed planetariums up to 70 feet across. The **Discovery Dome** system was developed by a partnership between Rice University and the Houston Museum of Natural Science, with seed funding under a NASA Cooperative Agreement. MTPE (doing business as ePlanetarium) is now the second-largest supplier of portable planetariums in the world. It also markets educational earth and space educational software with its partner company, Space Update, Inc. Planetarium shows and software can be purchased on DVD from the online store <a href="http://www.spaceupdate.com/store/">http://www.spaceupdate.com/store/</a>, and shows viewed on the "eplanetarium" Youtube channel.

## **About DiversityBusiness.com**

Launched in 1999, DiversityBusiness.com is the largest organization of privately owned businesses throughout the United States that provide goods and services to Fortune 1000 companies, government agencies, and colleges and universities. DiversityBusiness.com provides research and data collection services for diversity including the "Top 50 Organizations for Multicultural Business Opportunities", "Top 500 Diversity Owned Companies in America", and others. Its research has been recognized and published by Forbes Magazine, Business Week and thousands of other print and internet publications. The site has gained national recognition and has won numerous awards for its content and design. Its e-magazine reaches over 3,000,000 readers, an e-newsletter that reaches 2.4 million, and website visitors of 1.2 million a month. It is a leading provider of diversity management tools. DiversityBusiness.com's produced by Computer Consulting Associates International Inc. (CCAii.com) of Southport, CT. Founded in 1980.

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