

**CONTACT: Katherine E. Arno**  
**Director of Training and Communication**  
**Maine Small Business Development Centers**  
**Phone 207-780-4853/FAX 207-780-4810**  
**E-mail [karno@maine.edu](mailto:karno@maine.edu)**

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**for Immediate Use**  
**October 8, 2004**

**JOHN R. MASSAUA ELECTED TO  
ASSOCIATION OF SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS  
NATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**PORTLAND, MAINE:** John R. Massaua, State Director of the Maine Small Business Development Centers/Small Business & Technology Development Centers (Maine SBDC/SBTDC), was elected to the Board of Directors of the Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC) at its national conference in New Orleans in September.

“We are delighted to have John join us on the board and look forward to his contributing in a significant way in the year ahead,” said Scott Daugherty, State Director of the North Carolina Small Business & Technology Development Centers and Chair of the ASBDC nine-member board.

Massaua has been Maine SBDC/SBTDC state director for three years, providing direction for its 11 centers and 25 outreach sites throughout the state. He came to Maine in 1998 as a business management assistance counselor with Coastal Enterprises in Wiscasset. Prior to that, Massaua enjoyed a thirty-year career in the retail/wholesale industry, including being a founding officer and later group vice president for Staples, The Office Superstore in Framingham, MA, and introducing the first food and drug combo retail units to New England when he worked with Mott’s Shop-Rite Supermarkets in East Hartford, CT, as executive vice president.

Massaua lives with his family in China Village, Maine.

The ASBDC represents the collective interest of the national network of small business development centers, which deliver business management assistance to and advocacy for America’s small business community. As a partnership program, ASBDC works with private enterprise, government, higher education and local nonprofit economic development organizations. Over 500,000 businesses are assisted by ASBDC member programs each year.

There are over 22 million small businesses nationwide, representing 99% of all U.S. businesses. Small business employs 53% of the private work force and contributes over half of the nation's private gross domestic product. In Maine, there are 37,000 small businesses, representing almost 98% of all businesses, and 100,000 independent workers. Last year Maine SBDC/SBTDC served 5,443 clients.

-more-

## **JOHN MASSAUA ELECTED**

**Page 2**

**Press Release**

**About Maine Small Business Development Centers:** *Maine Small Business Development Centers (Maine SBDC) and its tech-focus group, Maine Small Business & Technology Development Centers (Maine SBTDC) provide comprehensive business management assistance, training, resource and information services to Maine's micro, small and technology-based business communities. Business assistance is provided at no cost to business owners by professional certified business counselors who meet rigorous education and business experience standards.*

*Maine SBDC/SBTDC is a partnership program of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in association with the SBA/SBDC, Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (Maine DECD), the University of Southern Maine (USM), and leading economic and/or community development hosting organizations, including the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG), Coastal Enterprises, Inc. (CEI), Eastern Maine Development Corporation (EMDC), and the Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC); with support from the Maine Technology Institute (MTI), the University of Maine (UMaine), and other contractors, allies and stakeholders.*

*Accredited by the Association of Small Business Development Centers (ASBDC) and administered by USM's School of Business, Maine SBDC/SBTDC operates a network of 11 service centers and 25 outreach offices located conveniently throughout the state. Maine SBDC/SBTDC provides comprehensive business management assistance, training, resource and information services to Maine's micro, small, and technology-based business communities.*

*Maine SBDC/SBTDC's mission is to engage itself and others in development activities that contribute to the improvement of the economic climate for and the success of micro, small, and technology-based businesses in the State of Maine. Its focus is to assist in the creation, growth and maintenance of viable small businesses and the jobs these businesses provide. Maine SBDC/SBTDC serves those seeking assistance who are willing and able to build, sustain, and/or expand their business. More information about the Maine SBDC/SBTDC can be found at [www.mainesbdc.org](http://www.mainesbdc.org). ####*