



Small Business Navigator using the Virtual Chamber of Commerce

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Go to the network

- 1. Download and print this document
- 2. Go to:
<http://www.thevirtualchamberofcommerce.com/>
- 3. Select VCCN
- 4. Create profile
- 5. Mousover tabs then select appropriate links

The Virtual Chamber of Commerce

This complimentary document is intended to help guide the entrepreneurial spirit of those interested in commerce related activities. It is a component of the Virtual Chamber of Commerce Network designed as a small business navigator. These efforts are intended to compliment existing tools in local communities.

Components of entrepreneurial/business planning

Three Primary Components

- Business/management skills
- Business modeling
- Building a capability statement
- Training materials are available, please email: info@thevirtualchamberofcommerce.com

Explanation/Reasoning

Too often new entrepreneurs/business owners start with a business plan. However, this approach is flawed because most lack the three primary components necessary to complete an effective business plan in the industry they intend to operate. Business participants must learn these components through experience, mentoring, and/or training. You can not buy them and expect to be successful.

Do the research before you invest

using the **GWCHI tab** complete the following:

National Environment

- **Census Data**
- **Economic Indicators**
- **MBDA**
- **VCC Web Site**
- **Your Economy Stats**

Local/Regional Environment Florida Examples

- **Florida Prospector** (Choose a county)
- **ED Offices** of economic development (FL)
- **Zip Code Analysis** (NA)

Create an operational infrastructure

Professional Image

- Using the **VALUE LINKS tab** complete the following:
 - Biz Templates
 - Create Docs
 - Create Events
 - Free Conference Calls
 - Xcel Templates

Business Identity

- Using the **VALUE LINKS tab** complete the following:
 - CCR
 - DUNS#
 - Federal ID
 - NAICS Codes
 - Networking

Expand into non-traditional markets

- Using the **INTL-TRADE tab** on the network select a region and answer the following questions:
 - What is the country profile where you would like to do business?
 - What commodities and products are best to import to your selected country?
 - What is the process of importing/exporting to a selected country?
 - What are the trade restrictions/regulations of doing business abroad?
 - What indices are available relative to doing business abroad?