

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **Prairie Quest Consulting granted 8(a) and SDB Certification by SBA**

Fort Wayne, Indiana, 9/24/07 – Prairie Quest Consulting announced today that the Small Business Administration (SBA) has granted 8(a) and Social Disadvantage Business (SDB) certification to the company. These two programs provide federal contracting opportunities for small businesses. “Having these two additional designations will help open doors and allow us to showcase our exceptional talent and past performance” said CEO/President Stacey Smith.

The SBA administers two particular business assistance programs for small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs). These programs are the 8(a) Business Development Program and the Small Disadvantaged Business Certification Program. While the 8(a) Program offers a broad scope of assistance to socially and economically disadvantaged firms, SDB certification strictly pertains to benefits in Federal Procurement. Companies which are 8(a) firms automatically qualify for SDB certification.

Benefits of the 8(a) program allows participants to receive sole-source contracts, up to a ceiling of \$3.5 million for goods and services and \$5.5 million for manufacturing. While SBA helps 8(a) firms build their competitive and institutional know-how, the agency also encourages them to participate in competitive acquisitions. Federal acquisition policies encourage Federal agencies to award a certain percentage of their contracts to SDBs. To speed up the award process, the SBA has signed Partnership Agreements (PAs) with a number of federal agencies allowing them to contract directly with certified 8(a) firms.

### **About Prairie Quest Consulting**

As a thought-leader in the government and commercial markets, Prairie Quest has acquired a strong reputation in operational management and technical services. We have been providing innovative, cost-effective solutions to the industry for five years, specializing in project management, strategic spend analysis, and acquisition management. Prairie Quest’s adept team has helped realize over \$300 million in savings for our clients and analyzed more than 10,000 processes to convert our clients to highly effective, cost-conscious organizations

**End**