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Frank Venegas, center, consults on an order with Abel Gutierrez, left, plant manager for Ideal Shield and Jesse Venegas, project manager.

# Hispanics share expertise

## Business Expo offers network links

BY JENNIFER YOUSSEF  
*The Detroit News*

**DETROIT** — After running a hugely successful business conglomerate for nearly 30 years, Frank Venegas, the grandson of Mexican immigrants, has plenty of advice to share with other Hispanic entrepreneurs about how to achieve the same success.

The 55-year-old chairman and chief executive of Detroit-based Ideal Group, which reported revenues of more than \$170 million last year, will have a chance to do just that at the sixth annual Hispanic Business Expo on Sept. 27-28.

The event, to be held at the Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit, will feature exhibits,

**"It ... lets them see the success of Hispanic entrepreneurs in the city of Detroit."**

**FRANK VENEGAS**  
*Chairman and chief executive of Detroit-based Ideal Group*



panel discussions and workshops and a "workforce development pavilion," where businesses can network with entrepreneurs, job seekers and the general public.

And for the first time this year, The Hispanic Business Alliance will offer a "matchmaker" program to link more than 100 local Hispanic-owned businesses with

government agencies and corporations interested in their goods and services.

Organizers are expecting some 5,000 visitors and more than 100 exhibits this year. That compares with 150 visitors and six exhibitors at the first event in 2001.

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### If you go

- **What:** Hispanic Business Expo
- **When:** 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sept. 27 and 6:45 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sept. 28
- **Where:** Marriot Hotel, Renaissance Center, downtown Detroit
- **For more information:** Visit [www.hbsexpo.org](http://www.hbsexpo.org)

### Expo to include job fair

The Hispanic Business Alliance will offer an opportunity for job seekers to visit at least 15 employers at the Workplace Development Pavilion from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 28. The pavilion will be in the Ontario Exhibit Hall of the Renaissance Center.