



Starting a Business with Just a Smartphone

By Anita Campbell

It might seem a bit surprising it's absolutely possible to start and run a business from your smartphone. At the very least, you can start a business and run the majority of it from a smartphone and without a computer, from your home.

Imagine for a moment that you don't have a full-fledged computer, and you can't afford expensive equipment. That's not so far fetched, because many budding entrepreneurs have minimal resources, yet most of us have a smartphone these days.

Or perhaps you simply love the idea of being a mobile. You want the freedom that comes with running a business from your phone.

With the right idea and the right mobile tools, you can run a business without investing in tons of expensive equipment or tying your business to one specific location. Here are some tips for starting a business from your smartphone.

Start with a "phone friendly" business model
 This part is essential.

Certain types of businesses naturally lend themselves to being run on mobile devices, whereas others may present more challenges.

For instance, you probably cannot start a full-service web design firm with just a smartphone. You'd need a desktop computer and some professional software in order to really get the job done. However, if you want to develop mobile apps, there are tools available for you to do that on a mobile device.

Some other businesses that you could potentially start with just a smartphone include:

- Social media marketing
- Consulting
- Event planning
- mCommerce (mobile commerce)
- Videography
- Podcasting
- Writing
- Personal shopping

Think also about business professionals who don't require a computer or a place of business that customers visit, and require only a small amount of supplies and equipment. Types of businesses



include handymen, maid service, gutter cleaning, home decorator, seamstress, and car detailing, to name a few. These are still low cost businesses to start and run, and it's not absolutely necessary they have a computer; instead, they can rely on a

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM NEW YORK STATE CERTIFIED M/WBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR THE
Mid-Suffolk Electric Yard
MTA LIRR Contract No. 6259
Bid Date: September 26, 2017

Description of project:
 Expansion of the LIRR Ronkonkoma Yard by construction of eleven additional tracks, substations, storage buildings, and employee facility.

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM M/WBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS CERTIFIED WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DIRECTORY
Enhanced Stations Initiative (ESI) 31 Stations, Package 4 + 7
MTA NYCT Contract No. A-36622D
Bid Date: September 26, 2017

Description of project:
 Contract A-36622D, Package 4 + 7, for enhancements at the following stations:

Package 4

- 57th Street Station, Manhattan (6th Avenue Line, IND)
- 23rd Street Station, Manhattan (6th Avenue Line, IND)
- 28th Street Station, Manhattan (Lexington Line, IRT)
- 34th Street—Penn Station—8th Avenue, Manhattan (8th Avenue Line, IND)
- 34th Street—Penn Station—7th Avenue, Manhattan (7th Avenue Line, IRT)

Package 7

- Northern Boulevard, Queens (Queens Boulevard Line, BMT/IND)
- 67th Street Station, Queens (Queens Boulevard Line, BMT/IND)
- Parsons Boulevard Station, Queens (Hillside Avenue Line, IND)

Goals and strategies:
 The contractor shall undertake the work so as to achieve all of the following overall goals:

- Enhance the customer experience at each station
- Make the stations cleaner, brighter, and easier to navigate
- Improve the aesthetics of the stations
- Facilitate increased ridership on the New York City Transit System
- Bring the stations to a state of good repair
- Expedite the delivery of the work on the Enhanced Stations Initiative and Contract A-36622D as exemplars for future station enhancements in New York City

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

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Coney Island Wastewater Treatment Plant Level 1 BNR Upgrade
NYC DEP Contract No. SF-BNR-CI
Bid Date: October 10, 2017

Description of project:
 This project, to construct a Level 1 BNR upgrade, is being implemented in order to meet specific total nitrogen (TN) limitations for discharges to Jamaica Bay. The work required includes, without limitation, the following:

- Aeration system improvements, including the addition of baffle walls and mixers to the aeration tanks,
- Construction of a new froth control system that provides a combined surface wasting of activated sludge (SWAS) and froth collection and transfer system in the aeration tanks, including tote based polymer systems, the rehabilitation of existing aeration tank plant effluent spray water system, and extension of spray water system to serve new SWAS wet wells,
- New aeration grids including drop legs, grid distribution piping, and find bubble membrane diffusers in the aeration tanks,
- Ancillary structural, civil, electrical, instrumentation, and control work required to implement the above referenced Level 1 BNR upgrade improvements.

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

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 SKANSKA KOCH INC.
IS SOLICITING BIDS FROM DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS CERTIFIED WITH THE USDOT CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
Construction Services for Mechanical/Electrical Rehabilitation of the Spuyten Duyvil Bridge, and All Associated Work as Described in the Specifications, Drawings, and Solicitation Documents
Amtrak Contract No: X138-17220
Bid Date: September 2017

Subcontracting opportunities include but are not limited to painting, electrical wires and controls, barges, safety boats, miscellaneous steel fabrication, strain gage and load testing, core drilling, and fiberglass grating. Please see contract documents for further opportunities.

Interested firms please contact John Papagiannakis at Skanska Koch Inc., john.papagiannakis@skanska.com • EOE/M/F/Vet/Disabled

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IS SOLICITING COST PROPOSALS FROM DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND VENDORS CERTIFIED WITH THE NEW YORK STATE UNIFIED CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
Flood Mitigation and Resiliency 148th Street Yard
MTA NYCT Contract No. C-34839
Bid Date: October 10, 2017

Description of project:
 The work consists of construction of perimeter flood protection wall, portal flood protection, and replacement of power cables and switches at the 148th Street Yard in the Borough of Manhattan. The work includes: extension of existing sheet pile wall along Harlem River, land side perimeter wall, replacement of track, providing stop log flood gate, new drainage and track work at portal, signal work, removal and disposal of power cables, third rail hand switches, duct banks, and installation of new power cables in new duct banks and new third rail hand switches.

Many bidding opportunities available.
 If you are interested in bidding on this project, please contact Skanska's Outreach Coordinator: Matthew.DeGudicibus@skanska.com

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- NJ&C Associates Carmel, New York www.njcassociates.com
- Skanska Koch Carteret, New Jersey www.usa.skanska.com
- Lammey & Giorgio, PA Haddon Township, New Jersey www.lgarch.com
- GCCOM Construction Company College Point, New York www.gccom.us
- Railroad Construction Company Paterson, New Jersey www.railroadconstruction.com

NORTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS

2017

Managing Your Company's Finances
 Monday, September 25, 2017, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm
 Baruch College, 55 Lexington Avenue, Suite 2-140, New York, NY
Main Sponsor(s): Midtown Manhattan Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
Contact: Gernely Almonte, 646-312-4790, sbdc@baruch.cuny.edu
Fee: Free; registration required
 Presented by Mary Anne Holley, lecturer, this seminar offers practical do-it-yourself methods of managing the finances of start-up companies. Participants will explore simple ways to set up recordkeeping systems, develop budgets, and generate reports that will help them control costs, improve cash flow, and contribute to the ongoing strategic planning for their businesses. Basic techniques and a quick look at QuickBooks will be discussed. The expert advisors at Midtown Manhattan SBDC, established in 1993, provide a variety of helpful services to New York County small businesses, free of charge. You may contact them at 646-312-4790.

Modern Networking
 Tuesday, September 26, 2017, 6:00 pm–8:00 pm
 Darien Library, 1441 Post Road, Darien, CT
Main Sponsor(s): SCORE Fairfield County
Contact: 203-831-0065, score.fairfieldcounty@gmail.com
Fee: Free; registration required
 This workshop provides a roadmap on how to

up your networking game. Learn how to build meaningful relationships, leveraging (free) digital resources based on tried and tested techniques and templates from the highly acclaimed *Build Your Dream Network* book by networking expert J. Kelly Hoey. Learn top networking tools of the digital age; how and where to start; how to create your own networking roadmap for your business, career, or your next social or non-profit project; dos and don'ts of digital networking. Presenters at this workshop include nationally known networking experts J. Kelly Hoey and Varelle Croes. SCORE, America's premier source of free and confidential small business advice for entrepreneurs and small businesses, is a nonprofit resource partner with the Small Business Administration.

Explore SBA Resources
 Wednesday, October 4, 2017, 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Center for Women and Enterprise, 24 School Street, 7th Floor, Boston, MA
Main Sponsor(s): Small Business Administration, Center for Women and Enterprise
Contact: Madeline Lutts, mlutts@cweonline.org
Fee: Free; registration required
 This workshop will help you understand the various Small Business Administration (SBA) programs and services that are available to entrepreneurs looking to start or expand a business. Topics covered will include: Technical Assistance Programs, SBA Loan Guarantee Program, 8(a) Business Development Program, HUBZone (Historically Underutilized Business Zones) Program, and Government Contracting Opportunities. To further the mission of helping small businesses succeed, SBA has established regional and local offices across the country.