Manufacturing Institute Media Contact:
Jacey Wilkins (202) 637-3493
jwilkins@nam.org

Society of Manufacturing Engineers Media Contact:
Lori Ann Dick, APR (313) 425-3187
ldick@sme.org

University of Phoenix Media Contact:
Ryan Rauzon (916) 599-2911
ryan.rauzon@apollogrp.edu

Deloitte Media Contact:
Jon Rucket (202) 220-2071
jrucket@deloitte.com

Women in Manufacturing STEP Awards Recognize 122 Women for Excellence in Manufacturing

WASHINGTON, D.C. – (January 15, 2013) – The Manufacturing Institute, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, University of Phoenix, and Deloitte today announced the recipients of the first Women in Manufacturing STEP (Science, Technology, Engineering and Production) Awards. The inaugural STEP Awards honor women who have demonstrated excellence and leadership in their careers and represent all levels of the manufacturing industry, from the factory-floor to the C suite.

"These 122 women are the faces of exciting careers in manufacturing," said Jennifer McNelly, president, The Manufacturing Institute. "We chose to honor these women because they each made significant achievements in manufacturing through positive impact on their company and the industry as a whole."

The STEP Awards are part of the larger *STEP Ahead initiative* launched to examine and promote the role of women in the manufacturing industry through recognition, research, and best practices for attracting, advancing, and retaining strong female talent.

"The *STEP Ahead* initiative was founded to change perceptions of the manufacturing industry and create new opportunities for women in the sector," said Latondra Newton, group vice president at Toyota Motor North America, Inc. and chairwoman of the *STEP Ahead* initiative. "This initiative is the call for action to transform the face of today's manufacturing talent and ensure that women can contribute to the future of this industry."

"The stories of these 122 women—and the leadership they demonstrate in a diversity of careers—are also meant to inspire the next generation of women leaders in manufacturing," said Tim Welsh, SVP National Industry Strategy Group, University of Phoenix. "We must empower today's leaders to help attract and educate our future workforce to keep our manufacturing base and our economy competitive."

A recent survey from Deloitte and The Manufacturing Institute found that nearly 70 percent of American manufacturing companies have a moderate to severe shortage of available, qualified workers. Manufacturing companies cannot fill as many as 600,000 skilled positions, even as unemployment numbers hover at historically high levels.

"As the nation emerges from the recession, we know that manufacturing is critical to our economy, and critical to the success of each manufacturer is a high-quality workforce," said Mark C. Tomlinson,

executive director/CEO, SME. “By telling the stories of real women in manufacturing, we not only will celebrate great careers, but also make a profound public statement about the significance of manufacturing.”

On February 5, The Manufacturing Institute and its *STEP Ahead* initiative partners will recognize the 122 recipients of the STEP Awards at a reception in Washington, D.C. The STEP Awards program will highlight each honoree’s story, including their leadership and accomplishments in manufacturing.

2013 STEP Award recipients include:

Karla Aaron	Hialeah Metal Spinning, Inc.	Hialeah, FL
Lorrie Acord	Pelco Products Inc.	Edmond, OK
Susan Adams	Able Manufacturing & Assembly, LLC	Joplin, MO
Tracy Albers	GrafTech International	Parma, OH
Amy Alberts	Plexus	Neenah, WI
Deb Anderson	Summers Manufacturing Co., Inc.	Maddock, ND
Cathy Bailey	Modine Manufacturing Company	Trenton, MO
Connie Baker	RoyOMartin	Alexandria, LA
Jennifer Bare	ConMed Linvatec	Largo, FL
Teresa Beach-Shelow	Superior Joining Technologies, Inc.	Machesney Park, IL
Christine Benz	TRUMPF Inc.	Farmington, CT
Ruby Bernard	Eastman Chemical Company	Kingsport, TN
Allison Blodig	Bio-Microbics, Inc.	Shawnee, KS
Diane Bond	Commercial Vehicle Group, Inc.	Edgewood, IA
Donna Bossman	Ingersoll Rand	La Crosse, WI
Sharon Bower	ConocoPhillips	Houston, TX
Norma Byron	Ashlawn Energy, LLC	Painesville, OH
Margaret Cannon	Eastman Chemical Company	Kingsport, TN
Mary Jo Cartwright	Batesville Casket Company	Manchester, TN
Dawn Cavaliere	LivingHR	Tampa, FL

Laurie Chandley	Southeastern Container, Inc	Enka, NC
Lin Chape	Vermeer Corporation	Pella, IA
Andrea Chavez	Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp	Boulder, CO
Terri Chicosky	LAMATEK	West Deptford, NJ
Raquel Chole	Dudek & Bock Spring Manufacturing Co.	Chicago, IL
Nancy Cole	NCC Engineering	Fernandina Beach, FL
Martha Collins	Air Products	Allentown, PA
Molly Conn	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Pompano Beach, FL
Colleen Wood Cordova	Kennametal, Inc.	Latrobe, PA
Cathy Costanzo	Exide Technologies	Milton, GA
Carol Craig	Craig Technologies	Melbourne, FL
Nancy Crews	Custom Manufacturing & Engineering (CME)	Pinellas Park, FL
Bobbi Cummins	Leggett & Platt	LaVergne, TN
Leah Curry	Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana	Princeton, IN
Bethanne Dearmitt	Somerset Welding & Steel, Inc.	Boswell, PA
Vickie DeThomas	FLIR	Freeport, PA
Diana Devlin	Spartan Motors, Inc.	Charlotte, MI
Julia DiCorleto	Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics	Aurora, OH
Melinda Donnelly	The Novaflex Group	Richmond Hill, ON
Annette Doyle	TRUMPF Inc.	Farmington, CT
Laura Drahn	U.S. Silica Co.	West Columbia, SC
Cindy Dyrda	Meyer Tool & Manufacturing, Inc.	Oak Lawn, IL
Cynthia Farrer	Ingersoll Rand	Carmel, IN
Dale Foerster	Starr Manufacturing	Vienna, OH
Cynthia Fowle	LORD Corporation	Erie, PA

Rosalind Fox	John Deere Turf Care	Fuquay-Varina, NC
Elin Gabriel	Alvogen	Pine Brook, NJ
Natalie Genova	Honeywell International	Tempe, AZ
Wendy Gifford	SC Johnson & Son	Racine, WI
Sharron Gilbert	Septimatech Group Inc.	Waterloo, ON
Karen Gilgenbach	Airgas USA, LLC	Milwaukee, WI
Arlene Gonzalez	NCI Group, Inc.	Houston, TX
Rebecca Guinn	Deere & Company	Moline, IL
Kelly Hagedorn	Kifco, Inc.	Havana, IL
Michelle Helm	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Houston, TX
Erika Hendricksen	The Dow Chemical Company	Wilmington, IL
Anne Herman	Mine Safety Appliances Company	Cranberry Twp., PA
Jan Herschkowitz	PRL, Inc.	Cornwall, PA
Amber Hinkle	Bayer MaterialScience LLC	Baytown, TX
Collie Hutter	Click Bond, Inc.	Carson City, NV
Martina Igel	Kennametal	Latrobe, PA
Mary Isbister	GenMet Corp.	Mequon, WI
Brandy Johnson	Babcock & Wilcox Power Generation Group, Inc.	Charlotte, NC
Kellie Johnson	ACE Clearwater Enterprises	Torrance, CA
Claire Jones - Barboni	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Pompano Beach, FL
Pamela Kan	Bishop-Wisecarver Corporation	Pittsburgh, CA
Valerie Kelso	Steinwall, Inc.	Coon Rapids, MN
Tracy Kemp	Ingersoll Rand	Carmel, IN
Sherry Knipp	John Deere Engine Works	Waterloo, IA
Christine Kurek	Air Products	Allentown, PA

Kathy Lamb	ADCO Products, Inc.	Michigan Center, MI
Alexie Lee	GLOBALFOUNDRIES	Milpitas, CA
Teresa Lee	NCI Group, Inc.	Houston, TX
Susan Lewis	The Dow Chemical Company	Houston, TX
Amalie Lyday	Walex Products Company, Inc.	Leland, NC
Kathryn Lyublanovits	ConMed Linvatec	Largo, FL
Heather Macholan	Behlen Manufacturing Co.	Columbus, NE
Darlene Miller	PERMAC Industries	Burnsville, MN
Tammie Nelson	AGCO	Beloit, KS
Annette Norris	Enterprise Group	Jackson, MI
Heather Olson	Incertec	Fridley, MN
Linda Palladino	Schneider Packaging Equipment Company, Inc.	Brewerton, NY
Nina Pathy	AGCO Corporation	Duluth, GA
Lisa Pauley	Ball Corporation	Broomfield, CO
Rona Pepmeier	Rolls-Royce plc	Indianapolis, IN
Carol Peters	A.O. Smith Water Products Company	McBee, SC
Charlotte Pett	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Houston, TX
Kelley Platt	Thomas Built Buses	High Point, NC
Angela Ramsey	Central Florida Box Corporation	Lake Mary, FL
Karen Randall	Westinghouse Electric LLC	Windsor, CT
Kathryn Raymond	ConMed Linvatec	Largo, FL
Colleen Reiter	MillerCoors LLC	Golden, CO
Myrna Reyes	TRUMPF Inc.	Farmington, CT
Becky Rieger	Braun Northwest, Inc.	Chehalis, WA
Charmaine Riggins	LORD Corporation	Cary, NC

Lisa Rimpf	Babcock & Wilcox	Charlotte, NC
Sheila Rogers	PTC	Needham, MA
Kimberly Rosenberry	Miltec UV	Stevensville, MD
Liz Russell	Stella-Jones Corporation	Pittsburgh, PA
Mary Pat Salomone	Babcock & Wilcox	Charlotte, NC
Jan Santerre	Hillenbrand	Batesville, IN
Joan Schork	Air Products	Allentown, PA
Donna Shinkunas	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Pompano Beach, FL
Dana Smith	Spirit AeroSystems Inc	Wichita, KS
Erikka Storch	Ohio Valley Steel Company	Wheeling, WV
Jacki Strauss	Paulsboro Refining Company	Paulsboro, NJ
Betsy Sundalius	Metalist International Incorporated	Lansing, MI
Barb Suski	Bison Gear & Engineering	St. Charles, IL
Gretchen Swain	Air Products	Allentown, PA
Mena Tazegul	John Deere Engine Works	Wateroo, IA
Athena Theodorakis	LORD Corporation	Cary, NC
Ngoc Kim Tran	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Houston, TX
Dollie Unger	HOERBIGER Corporation of America	Pompano Beach, FL
Tana Utley	Caterpillar Inc.	Mossville, IL
Anna Wald	Wyoming Machine, Inc.	Stacy, MN
Noelle Walsh	The Dow Chemical Company	Midland, MI
Barbara Walz	Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association	Westminster, CO
Sandra Westlund-Deenihan	Quality Float Works, Inc.	Schaumburg, IL
Karen Wilder	The Schwan Food Company	Marshall, MN
Ellen Williams	BP plc	London, UK

Racquel Willis	Governair, LLC	Oklahoma City, OK
Lisa Witte	Thermo Fisher Scientific	Waltham, MA

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About the Manufacturing Institute
The Manufacturing Institute (the Institute) is the 501 (c) 3 affiliate of the National Association of Manufacturers. As a non-partisan organization, the Institute is committed to delivering leading-edge information and services to the nation's manufacturers. The Institute is the authority on the attraction, qualification, and development of world-class manufacturing talent. Visit www.themanufacturinginstitute.org

About the Society of Manufacturing Engineers
The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) is the premier source for manufacturing knowledge, education and networking. Through its many programs, events, activities and online training division, Tooling U, SME connects manufacturing practitioners to each other, to the latest technologies and to the most up-to-date manufacturing processes. SME has members around the world and is supported by a network of chapters and technical communities. A 501(c)3 organization, SME is a leader in manufacturing workforce development issues, working with industry, academic and government partners to support the current and future skilled workforce.

About University of Phoenix
University of Phoenix is constantly innovating to help students balance education and life in a rapidly changing world. Flexible schedules, challenging courses and interactive learning can help students pursue personal and career aspirations without putting their lives on hold. University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, offering associate, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs from campuses and learning centers across the U.S. as well as online throughout the world. For more information, visit phoenix.edu.

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