



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONNSTEP's Rebecca Kane Dow Honored with Award at the MEP National Conference**

(Rocky Hill, Connecticut) – The Grand Ballroom of the Marriott World Center in Orlando was the stage for Rebecca Kane Dow to receive a national award at the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) National Conference, held May 1-5, 2010. Kane Dow took home the MEP Unsung Hero of the Year Award out of a pool of 8 nominees from across the United States. The MEP unsung Hero of the Year Award recognizes individuals from the marketing, reporting, administrative or human resources staff whose special efforts behind the scenes allow a center to excel in the eyes of the manufacturing customer.

CONNSTEP, the Manufacturing Extension Partnership for Connecticut. The assistance provided by CONNSTEP for Connecticut manufacturers is supported, in joint effort, by the Department of Commerce National Institutes of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD).

Nominated by CONNSTEP President Bonnie Del Conte for the second year in a row, the nomination was endorsed by David Occhialini, Treasurer of Reno Machine Company, Inc. of Newington. As the Manager of Marketing and Communications for over five years, Rebecca manages all elements of the CONNSTEP marketing and public relations efforts, legislative communications, and training and networking events for the Connecticut manufacturing community to assist them in their own business growth and success. Rebecca directs the CONNSTEP Manufacturing and Business Conference, an annual event which draws hundreds of attendees from the New England manufacturing and business communities.

CONNSTEP President Bonnie Del Conte underscores Rebecca's dedication, "As Manager of Marketing and Communications, Rebecca has not only taken on even greater responsibilities in our center and within the MEP System, but she continues to go over and above what is expected of her, displaying that extraordinary effort, lending that helping hand. Our nomination comes with deepest recognition from the entire CONNSTEP organization as she continues with her generous support of all of us."

**About CONNSTEP**

CONNSTEP's mission is to help Connecticut manufacturers apply advanced technology and modern management methodologies to become more competitive. Since 1994, CONNSTEP's innovative programs help hundreds of manufacturers annually and have assisted in the creation or retention of thousands of jobs. CONNSTEP's team of manufacturing specialists provides business growth, technical and process improvement assistance. Core service areas include Lean Solutions, Quality Management Systems, Enterprise Growth Services, Green Manufacturing Systems, Business Assessments and Culture and Change Management Solutions.

CONNSTEP is sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Economic and Community Development and the U.S. Department of Commerce through the national Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program in the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

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