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MASSECON ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR ITS ELEVENTH ANNUAL TEAM MASSACHUSETTS ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARDS

Finalists selected based on job growth, investment, and facility expansion

WATERTOWN, Massachusetts – August 25, 2014 –

Twenty-two companies from across the state have been selected as finalists for the 2014 Team Massachusetts Economic Impact Awards, awarded annually by MassEcon. These finalists, representing companies from Boston to the Berkshires, will present one-minute elevator pitches describing their growth in the Bay State to a panel of judges and business leaders on September 17, 2014 at Nutter McLennen & Fish LLP in Boston.

The awards celebrate companies that have made an outstanding contribution to the Massachusetts economy. The winners from each of the five regions will be announced in October and recognized at an awards luncheon on November 25th in Boston.

The finalist companies range in size and are drawn from different industries including education, robotics, manufacturing, life sciences, energy, consumer goods, information technology, and advertising. MassEcon selected the finalists based on their job growth, facility expansion, and investment since January 1, 2013, as well as other criteria including community involvement. Together this year's finalists have added over 2,100 jobs to the Commonwealth, invested nearly \$415 million, and expanded their facilities by more than 2.4 million square feet since January 2014.

Finalists compete on a regional basis, defined as West, Central, Southeast, Northeast, and Greater Boston. From the pool of finalists, a gold, silver, and bronze winner will be selected from each region.

"We are thrilled to recognize the businesses in Massachusetts that contribute so much to our state's prosperity, said Susan Houston, Executive Director, MassEcon. "The range of industries and regions represented by this outstanding group of companies demonstrates the overall strength of our Commonwealth."

"These Team Massachusetts finalists are making significant contributions to our state's economy," said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Greg Bialecki. "I applaud these companies for their investment and look forward to our ongoing partnership as they continue to expand and create jobs here in Massachusetts."

The companies chosen as finalists for the 11th ANNUAL TEAM MASSACHUSETTS ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARDS are listed below.

WEST:

Menck Windows – Chicopee Nuclea Biotechnologies, Inc. – Pittsfield Sinicon Plastics, Inc. – Dalton

SOUTHEAST:

AccuRounds, Inc. – Avon Crown Uniform & Linen Service – Brockton Hydroid, Inc. – Pocasset Matouk – Fall River SolarCity – Pembroke

NORTHEAST:

Asahi/America – Lawrence Entegris, Inc. – Bedford Keurig Green Mountain, Inc. – Burlington Solectria Renewables – Lawrence PlumChoice, Inc. – Lowell Toxikon Corporation– Bedford

CENTRAL:

AIS, Inc. – Leominster Pall Life Sciences – Westborough Quest Diagnostics – Marlborough

GREATER BOSTON:

Biogen Idec, Inc. – Cambridge EF Education First – Cambridge Havas Media/Arnold Worldwide – Boston Pfizer, Inc. – Cambridge uniQure – Lexington

About MassEcon

MassEcon, founded in 1993, is a non-profit, non-partisan entity that serves as the state's private sector partner in promoting Massachusetts as the premier choice for business growth. Its services include the state's only *Site Selection Service*, which helps expanding and relocating companies find a home in the Commonwealth; the *Research & Information Service*, which provides companies with the information they need to evaluate the Commonwealth as a location to grow; and the *Massachusetts Ambassadors*, a network of civic and corporate leaders who help market Massachusetts as a place to do business. <u>www.massecon.com</u>