



Kennametal Leaders Recognized with Women in Manufacturing STEP Awards

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LATROBE, Pa., Jan. 15, 2013 /PRNewswire/ -- Kennametal Inc. (NYSE: KMT) announced today that two company leaders received honors in the inaugural Women in Manufacturing STEP Awards presented by The Manufacturing Institute, Deloitte, University of Phoenix, and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. Kennametal's **Colleen Wood Cordova**, vice president global product management, and **Martina Igel**, plant manager of Kennametal's Schongau, Germany facility, were selected with 120 other women recognized at all levels, from the factory floor to the C-suite.

STEP stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Production, all reflected in the achievements of these women, who were recognized for leadership excellence in modern manufacturing.

"On behalf of all Kennametal employees around the world, I am pleased to congratulate Colleen Wood Cordova and Martina Igel for being named among the first group of leaders to receive this great honor," said Kennametal Chairman, President and CEO Carlos Cardoso. "We are very proud of the fact that their example will help promote opportunities to inspire more women to pursue careers in today's high-tech manufacturing. We need strong leaders like Colleen and Martina to keep this vital industry thriving."

For more information on the achievements of each, please visit links to profiles for [Ms. Cordova](#) and [Ms. Igel](#).

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. on February 5, 2013. The STEP Awards program will highlight each honoree's leadership and accomplishments in manufacturing.

"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 by The Manufacturing Institute, Deloitte, University of Phoenix, and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers, 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."

A 2011 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. Additionally, labor statistics show that women are underrepresented in the manufacturing workforce and in manufacturing leadership ranks — a situation that must be reversed to preserve and grow the industry.

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 Kennametal Inc.

Kennametal Inc. (NYSE: KMT) delivers productivity to customers seeking peak performance in demanding environments by providing innovative custom and standard wear-resistant solutions. This proven productivity is enabled through our advanced material sciences and application knowledge. Our commitment to a sustainable environment provides additional value to our customers. Companies operating in everything from airframes to coal mining, from engines to oil wells and from turbochargers to construction recognize Kennametal for extraordinary contributions to their value chains. With annual sales of nearly \$3 billion and approximately 13,000 employees, Kennametal serves customers in more than 60 countries worldwide — with more than 50 percent of these revenues coming from outside North America. Visit us at www.kennametal.com.

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