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**MAINE MEP WELCOMES COLLEEN MCCRACKEN OF THOS. MOSER
CABINETMAKERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

AUGUSTA, ME – The Maine Manufacturer Extension Partnership (Maine MEP), a government-funded organization that assists local manufacturers with becoming more competitive, efficient and prosperous with new manufacturing and management technologies, is pleased to add Colleen McCracken, Chief Operating Officer of Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers to its Board of Directors.

“Colleen has vast familiarity with the manufacturing industry, working for several large companies in Massachusetts and Maine. She is versant with the wholesale, retail, and mail order industries but also has extensive financial and accounting experience within manufacturing companies, having most recently worked as Chief Financial Officer for Thos. Moser before becoming Chief Operating Officer,” said Bruce Pulkkinen, chairman of the Maine MEP Board of Directors. “With her fine leadership skills and knowledge of the inner-workings of manufacturing, Colleen will be a valuable member of our board, and an excellent resource to Maine manufacturers.”

At Thos. Moser, Colleen also directs the master scheduling function, is a member of the Manufacturing Operations Team that oversees manufacturing operations for the company and is a member of the Senior Management Team. Recently, Colleen worked with members of the Maine MEP to implement Lean elements at Thos. Moser, and as a result, the company was able to determine a strategic roadmap for the future and make large gains in efficiency and productivity. Colleen has also served on a number of professional Boards and committees, including the Trinity Catholic School Board and Finance Committee, the APICs Board, and the Institute for Family Owned Business as a member of the Awards Banquet Committee and the Gannett Family Business of the Year judge.

“As Maine MEP Board members, we are responsible for such things as securing and overseeing funds and setting a strategic plan direction for the organization,” added Pulkkinen. “We are very confident that Colleen will fit in perfectly and will be able to hit the ground running as an advocate for the MEP program and for all manufacturers of our great state.”

About Maine MEP

Maine MEP is an affiliate of the NIST under the U.S. Department of Commerce. The national MEP is a network of manufacturing extension centers that provide business and technical assistance to smaller manufacturers in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Through MEP, manufacturers have access to more than 2000 manufacturing and business “coaches” whose job is to help firms make changes that lead to greater productivity, increased profits, and enhanced global competitiveness. For more information on the Maine MEP program call 1-800-637-4634 or visit www.mainemep.org.

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