Press Release

Economic Development Organizations Select Houlton Manufacturing Executive to Spearhead MEP Program in Aroostook & Washington Counties

CARIBOU — The Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) and the Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Maine MEP) announced that Dana Delano of Houlton has been selected to serve as the MEP Project Manager for NMDC’s Economic and Workforce Development division. In his role as MEP Manager, Delano will work with small and mid-size manufacturers in Aroostook and Washington counties to enhance their productivity, innovation capacity, technological performance and global competitiveness.

Delano previously was employed as Director of Sales and Marketing at Ward Cedar Log Homes in Houlton. A University of Maine graduate, Delano brings nearly 30 years of experience in Maine’s wood products manufacturing industry.

“Dana brings a wealth of manufacturing, sales and marketing experience and will do an outstanding job serving the region’s business community,” said Ryan Pelletier, the Director of Economic and Workforce Development at NMDC. “As the MEP Program Manager, he will work directly with companies to help them identify conditions that may be impeding the ability to become more efficient, competitive and prosperous.”

Part of a nationwide network of centers under the U.S. Department of Commerce, the Maine MEP’s mission is to create and retain manufacturing jobs by helping firms improve their productivity and profitability. The nonprofit organization provides a variety of services – from innovation strategies to process improvements to supply chain solutions to green manufacturing – all designed to help manufacturers create new products, develop new customers and expand into new markets.

“Maine MEP is pleased to welcome Dana to our statewide team of project managers,” said Bruce Pulkinnen, chair of the MEP board of directors. “Our project managers serve as trusted business advisers who can help manufacturers solve challenges and identify opportunities for growth. Dana’s extensive experience analyzing markets and developing successful sales strategies in a core Maine industry will strengthen the collective expertise of our organization and serve as a valuable resource to manufacturers in Washington and Aroostook counties.”

“I am very excited to serve as the MEP Project Manager and join the NMDC team,” said Delano. “My experience as an executive in the log home manufacturing and construction industry directly correlates to this position.”

Delano is active in the Houlton Rotary Club and the Church of the Good Shepherd, and has served on various municipal boards and industry committees.

He will begin his new position, which is primarily based out of Houlton, June 14.

About Maine MEP
The Maine MEP is an affiliate of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) under the U.S. Department of Commerce. The national MEP system 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 2,000 manufacturing and business “coaches” whose job is to help firms make changes that lead to greater productivity, increased profits and enhanced global competitiveness. For information on the Maine MEP program, visit www.mainemep.org, or phone 1-800-MEP-4MFG.

About NMDC

The Northern Maine Development Commission (NMDC) is a membership organization comprised of participating communities and counties in the Aroostook-Washington Economic Development District. The organization provides federal and state services at the regional and local levels. NMDC also provides management and support for Aroostook County Tourism (ACT), Aroostook Municipal Association (AMA), Aroostook Partnership for Progress (APP), Leaders Encouraging Aroostook Development (LEAD), Northern Maine Finance Corp. (NMFC), Aroostook/Washington County Local Workforce Investment Board and Northern Maine Solid Waste Management Committee (NMSWMC). For more information on NMDC programs, visit www.nmdc.org