

For Immediate Release:
December 14, 2007

For More Information Please Contact:
Jack Healy
MassMEP Director of Operations
508-831-7020

MEP LEADER JOINS UMASS DARTMOUTH ADVISORY BOARD
*MassMEP's Glenn Gertridge selected to serve on Advisory Board for the UMass
Dartmouth Business Innovation Research Center (BIRC)*

WOBURN, MA – The Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MassMEP), a resource organization for manufacturing companies across the state, is pleased to announce that Glenn Gertridge has been selected to serve on the Advisory Board for the UMass Dartmouth Business Innovation Research Center (BIRC). Gertridge is the manager of business development & strategic partnering at MassMEP.

“Glenn’s involvement on the BIRC advisory board makes a lot of sense,” said Jack Healy, director of operations at Mass MEP. “One of the BIRC goals is to promote the exchange of information, ideas, and best practices. At MassMEP, we coach businesses to make changes that lead to greater productivity, increased profits and enhanced global competitiveness. The board will surely utilize his over 25 years of experience.”

BIRC is a UMass Dartmouth research center designed to conduct research and disseminate knowledge about emerging business practices such as E-Business and Supply Chains. The mission of BIRC is to help businesses create value for customers and stakeholders by improving their performance through research, innovation and applications.

Glenn Gertridge has held various positions in manufacturing such as General Manager, Technical Director, Quality Manager, and Manufacturing Engineer with companies such as Acushnet Company, Julius Koch USA, Bay State Metal Products, and Hope Webbing. Glenn's experience is in the areas of Lean Business Principles, Cellular Manufacturing, Facility Layout, Quality Management Systems, and Strategic Business Planning. He is a

Certified Layout Planner in the process of Systematic Layout Planning from University of Kansas and has developed over 150 facility layout designs nationally.

The MassMEP 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 more information, please visit www.massmep.org, or phone 1-800-MEP-4MFG.

-END-