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## **Four Outstanding NTMA Women Honored At 2014 STEP Awards**

*Independence, OH* – The National Tooling and Machining Association is proud to announce that four of its members were among the 160 recipients of the Manufacturing Institute’s 2014 STEP (Science, Technology, Engineering and Production) Awards. The award is given each year to women in the manufacturing industry who demonstrate excellence and leadership in their careers. Recipients represent all levels of the manufacturing industry, from the factory floor to the C-suite.

The four NTMA award winners in 2014 include:

- Kim Arrigoni, Controller and second-generation business owner at Haberman Machine Inc. in Oakdale, MN;
- Stacey Bibik, who works on sales and marketing for Stacy Machine & Tooling Inc. in Broomfield, CO;
- Tanya DiSalvo, President of Criterion Tool & Die Inc. in Brook Park, OH;
- Shannon Sweatman, Director of Human Resources at Southern Manufacturing Technologies in Tampa, FL.

“We are very proud of this year’s 2014 STEP Award winners,” said NTMA President Dave Tilstone. “NTMA strongly supports the emergence of talented women throughout the manufacturing industry, whose continued and increased participation is fundamental to the future success of our industry.”

“Women at present make up only about 25% of the manufacturing labor force, as opposed to roughly 50% of the overall U.S. labor force,” continued Tilstone. “Increased participation by women in our industry helps us to address the skills gap that manufacturers currently face while bringing a fresh wave of outstanding talent to an industry that must stay innovative and competitive amidst a tough global marketplace in order to survive. We salute our 2014 STEP Award winners and thank them for their contributions to our industry.”

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*For additional information on NTMA, visit [www.ntma.org](http://www.ntma.org).*

*About NTMA: NTMA's 1,400 member companies design and manufacture special tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, gages, special machines and precision-machined parts. Some firms specialize in experimental research and development work as well as rapid prototyping. Many NTMA members are privately owned small businesses, yet the industry generates sales in excess of \$40 billion a year. NTMA's mission is to help members of the U.S. precision custom manufacturing industry achieve business success in a global economy through advocacy, advice, networking, information, programs and services.*