

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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**MASSECON ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF EIGHTH ANNUAL TEAM MASSACHUSETTS
ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARDS**

Coca-Cola, Communispace, Smith & Wesson, A123 Systems, Kiva Systems and Airxchange are among winners that are adding jobs and investment from each region of state

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts, October 3, 2011 – The Massachusetts Alliance for Economic Development (MassEcon) today announced its [Eighth Annual Team Massachusetts Economic Impact Award](#) winners in preparation for its November 22nd Awards Luncheon, which will take place at the [Seaport Hotel, Boston](#). Companies from across the [Commonwealth](#) will be recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Massachusetts economy. Over 400 are expected to attend, including featured speaker [Governor Deval Patrick](#).

The winning companies (listed below) were selected after a reception with their competitors and judges at an afternoon event at the [UMass Club in Boston](#) with featured guest, Secretary of Housing and Economic Development, [Greg Bialecki](#). The reception enabled senior executives from the companies to present their attributes in the categories of job growth, facility expansion, investment, and community involvement since January 1, 2010.

The growth stories of the winning companies are all unique and represent a broad range of industries - including defense, software, energy, marketing, telecommunications, life sciences, robotics, and consumer products.

"The Commonwealth's world-renowned innovation economy is driven by the Team Massachusetts award winners and companies like them across the state," said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development [Greg Bialecki](#). "The Patrick-Murray Administration is grateful for the investment these firms are making in our workers and our state's long-term prosperity."

In addition to the Gold, Silver, and Bronze winners from each region, MassEcon will also present two unique awards: *Chairman's Award*: [Jerry Sargent, President, Citizens Bank](#), and *Gateway City Champions*: Solectria Renewables of Lawrence and Biomedical Research Models in Worcester.

"The commitment and investments these companies have made in Massachusetts have long lasting economic impacts which are vital to the continued growth of the Massachusetts economy. MassEcon is proud to celebrate these companies for staying and growing here," stated [Susan Houston, Executive Director of MassEcon](#).

For more information about the event or to register, email Sean Getchell at sgetchell@massecon.com. Lead sponsors of the event include: Citizens Bank, Massachusetts It's All Here, MassDevelopment, NAI Hunneman, and VHB.

About MassEcon

MassEcon, founded in 1993, is a non-profit partnership of the private and public sectors dedicated to marketing Massachusetts as a competitive location for business. Its services include the state's only *Site Finder Service*, which helps expanding and relocating companies find appropriate sites throughout the Commonwealth; the *Research & Information Service*, which provides companies with the information they need to evaluate the Commonwealth as a location to grow; and the *Massachusetts Ambassadors*, a network of civic and corporate leaders who help market Massachusetts as a place to do business. Through these channels, and in conjunction with state, regional, and local partners, MassEcon has helped facilitate the location of over 250 companies including Bristol-Myers Squibb, Straumann USA, Merck, and American Superconductor.

EIGHTH ANNUAL TEAM MASSACHUSETTS ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARD WINNERS

Central

Gold: A123 Systems – Westborough

Silver: Acacia Communications – Maynard

Bronze: Simonds International – Fitchburg

Greater Boston

Gold: Communispace – Boston

Silver: Dassault Systèmes – Waltham

Bronze: HubSpot – Cambridge

West

Gold: Smith & Wesson – Springfield

Silver: Coca-Cola – Northampton

Bronze: General Dynamics AIS – Pittsfield

Northeast

Gold: Kiva Systems – North Reading

Silver: Jessica's Brick Oven – North Andover

Bronze: GT Advanced Technologies – Salem

Southeast

Gold: Airxchange – Rockland

Silver: Horizon Beverage – Norton

Bronze: Reinhart Food Services – New Bedford

Special Award Winners

Chairman's Award: Jerry Sargent, President, Citizens Bank

Gateway City Champions:

Solectria Renewables – Lawrence

Biomedical Research Models - Worcester

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