

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Association Headquarters Executive Earns CMP Designation

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J. – Association Headquarters (AH), a leading association management company, is proud to announce that meeting professional Debi Maines achieved the prestigious Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) designation. A member of the AH team for nearly two years, Maines serves as Director of Meetings for the Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society.

The foremost certification program of today's meetings, conventions and exhibitions industry, the CMP program recognizes individuals who have achieved the industry's highest standard of professionalism. Established in 1985, the CMP designation is a program of the Convention Industry Council (CIC) designed to increase the professionalism of meeting managers in the industry. In order to achieve CMP designation, the applicant must first qualify to sit for the exam by exhibiting knowledge, education, and experience in meeting management. A three month study is required before passing the challenging CMP exam.

A graduate of Taylor Business Institute in Marlton, N.J., Maines' work experience includes 22 years in the association management and meeting planning business.

"We are committed to having the top meetings, exhibits, and trade show management team," said Pam Ballinger, CMP, Vice President of Meetings and Trade Shows/Exhibits. "This certification reflects Debi's hard work and knowledge, as well as her dedication to the meetings industry. AH is fortunate to have such a dedicated meeting manager and I am personally thrilled to see her rise to this level of accomplishment."

"I am very proud to be among the select group of meeting professionals who have earned the CMP designation," said Maines. "It is a great honor and privilege to have this designation along with some of my co-workers here at AH who I admire."

The meetings, exhibits and trade shows department within Association Headquarters houses nearly 30 professionals who specialize in a variety of hospitality services. Six team members hold the special designation of CMP. The talented team manages more than 200 meetings and trade shows that range from 6,500 attendees with \$2.5 million budgets to intimate board meetings for less than 20 people. The meetings and exhibits segment of the medical and trade association market is a fast-growing aspect of the Association Management Company industry and AH continues to keep up with the rising demand.

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Association Headquarters, Inc. (AH), based in Mt. Laurel, N.J., is a leader in the field of voluntary organization management. For 30 years, the company has provided executive management, trade show management, meeting and convention planning, public relations, marketing, creative services, membership development and administrative support for trade associations and professional societies. AH holds a dual charter accreditation with the International Association of Association Management Companies (IAAMC) to ANSI standard and the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE).

For more information about Association Headquarters call 856-439-0500 or visit the Web site at www.associationheadquarters.com.

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