

For Immediate Release

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Post-NOCOM 2019 Networking Event Features Colorado OEDIT Director Markey

Markey to speak at B2B networking event April 11, 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Loveland Embassy Suites

Loveland, Colorado — <u>Northern Colorado Manufacturing Partnership (NoCO)</u> has announced a new, larger venue for its annual post-NOCOM B2B networking event, which will feature <u>Colorado OEDIT</u> Executive Director Betsy Markey. The event will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 11 at the <u>Loveland Embassy Suites</u>, adjacent to <u>The Ranch Events Complex</u>.

After feedback from manufacturers on the need for more capacity at the B2B Networking Reception, the venue was changed. The originally scheduled Kick-Off Breakfast has been canceled. Betsy Markey, Executive Director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT), has graciously offered to speak about the initiatives of Governor Jared Polis's cabinet and OEDIT. With Colorado industry growing and Larimer and Weld counties growing twice as fast as the rest of the state, B2B attendees can look forward to hearing about talent pipeline, workforce, supply chain, transportation and more.

"We are proud to sponsor the 2019 NOCOM to help facilitate further growth and collaboration in the manufacturing industry. The continued growth and expansion of advanced manufacturing industry in Northern Colorado plays an important role in the state's economic landscape," said Katie Woslager, senior manager of Advanced Industries at the Colorado Office of Economic Development.

Join us for an opportunity to connect and develop new business relationships in a relaxed and fun environment with more manufacturers and more partners. Event tickets include beer, wine, hors d'oeuvres and prize drawings. The grand prize is a two-night Winter Park Luxury Condo and Mountain Getaway valued at \$700, sponsored by H2 Manufacturing Solutions. Thank you to our event sponsors <u>H2</u> <u>Manufacturing Solutions</u> and <u>Manufacturer's Edge</u> and food and beverage sponsors <u>Longmont Economic</u> <u>Development Partnership</u> for making this event possible. "Longmont EDP is proud to sponsor the NOCOM 2019 B2B alongside some of our strongest partners in supporting the growth, sustainability, and viability of manufacturing in the region, said Longmont Economic Development Partnership President/CEO Jessica Erickson. "As the largest manufacturing trade show in the state, NOCOM presents an incredible opportunity for Longmont-based manufacturers to learn, network, and do business with their counterparts in the region so it is a great fit for Longmont EDP to show our support for their success."

"We're glad to have Colorado OEDIT back as a sponsor, and thrilled to have its new Executive Director Betsy Markey as a part of the event, especially here on her home turf in Northern Colorado," said NOCOM 2019 Chair Adam Papilion. "There's a lot of interest in what's ahead for 2019 and beyond and how the new state administration priorities around economic development and manufacturing will play out, and we look forward to some early insight into that."

A Fort Collins resident, <u>Markey</u> was appointed by Governor Jared Polis to his cabinet as Executive Director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade in January 2019. She has over 30 years of leadership experience in government and the private sector. She has served as a Member of Congress, a senior federal executive, and the co-founder and CFO of a high tech company.

She was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) based in Denver in 2016. In this capacity she oversaw the delivery of the agency's small business programs and services in Colorado, Montana, North and South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming. (more of her bio on the ChooseColorado web page linked above)

A returning sponsor to NOCOM, OEDIT joins FirstBank, Aerotek, CAP Logistics/COBRT, City of Loveland, EKS&H, Flood and Peterson and Hoff & Leigh as major sponsors. B2B networking event sponsors are H2 Manufacturing Solutions and Manufacturer's Edge. Speaker hall sponsors are FirstBank and AuerCPA. Coffee sponsor is Noffsinger. Additional sponsorship opportunities are available, visit <u>https://nocomfg.com/nocom/</u> for details.

About the 5th Annual NOCOM Trade Show

NOCOM 2019 takes place Thursday, April 11th, 2019, The Ranch Events Complex, in Loveland, Colorado. For more information or to register, visit <u>www.nocomfg.com</u>.

Date: Thursday, April 11th, 2019

Time: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
B2B Networking Reception 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. (separate ticket required)
Featuring Colorado OEDIT Executive Director Betsy Markey

For more information and to register for this event, visit<u>www.nocomfg.com</u>. For more information on sponsorships and to become a corporate sponsor, contact Adam Papilion, NOCOM 2019 Chair, at 970-692-3344 or <u>adam@h2manufacturingsolutions.com</u>.

About the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade

The Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT) works with statewide partners to create a positive business climate that encourages dynamic economic development and sustainable job growth. Under the leadership of Governor Jared Polis, we strive to advance the state's economy through financial and technical assistance in support of local and regional economic development activities throughout Colorado. Learn more on the <u>OEDIT website</u>, and find them on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>.

About Northern Colorado Manufacturing Partnership

The NoCo Manufacturing Partnership was formed in 2013 as a result of Governor Hickenlooper's state Economic Development plan called the Colorado Blue Print. The Blue Print identified 11 key sectors of the economy in Colorado by region. Northern Colorado's two main sectors identified were Health and Wellness and Advanced Manufacturing. Regions within the state were encouraged to form sector partnerships to provide more localized grass roots support to augment state efforts in each sector. These would be industry specific, led by business, in partnership with economic development, education and workforce development. A collaboration arose as part of the Blue Print process involving people from each of these affiliations and the NoCo Manufacturing Partnership was born. It continues to be an all-volunteer, business led, FREE membership organization designed to support Northern Colorado manufacturers. It is served by a Board of Directors, representing each affiliation from private business to local government, as well as two active committees: Networking and Manufacturing Talent/Rocks! Find us on the web, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

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Access this formatted release, as well as a bio and photo of Markey, via Google Docs: <u>https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bnTwiCzUzxAXknllWnKG0crFIUFGmhBa2viJzo8jkHQ/edit?usp=s</u> <u>haring</u>

Betsy Markey was appointed by Governor Jared Polis to his cabinet as Executive Director of the Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade in January 2019. She has over 30 years of leadership experience in government and the private sector. She has served as a Member of Congress, a senior federal executive, and the co-founder and CFO of a high tech company.

Betsy was appointed by President Obama to serve as the Regional Administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) based in Denver in 2016. In this capacity she oversaw the delivery of the agency's small business programs and services in Colorado, Montana, North and South Dakota, Utah and Wyoming.

In 2011, she was appointed by the President to serve as the Assistant Secretary for Intergovernmental Affairs for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in Washington DC. She facilitated the direct line of communication between the department and governors and mayors across the country on all DHS mission areas, including cyber security, terrorism prevention, transportation security, immigration enforcement, border security and disaster assistance.

Betsy was elected to serve as a Member of Congress in Colorado's 4th Congressional District in 2008, and represented over 700,000 constituents in one of the country's largest congressional districts in the 111th Congress. She served on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Agriculture.

In the late-1980's, Betsy and her husband launched a successful technology company, Syscom Services, which was one of the first companies to market email, and subsequently expanded into the area of web design and web-based information management systems. The firm has been ranked in the *Inc. 500* listing of America's fastest-growing private companies. She participated in the sale of the company to a group of investors. During that time she also purchased a coffee/ice cream shop in Fort Collins called Huckleberry's. She sold the store five years later to another local business.

She holds a Bachelor degree from the University of Florida and a Master of Public Administration from American University.

