



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MASSECON ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR ITS NINTH ANNUAL
TEAM MASSACHUSETTS ECONOMIC IMPACT AWARDS**

Finalists selected based on job growth, investment and facility expansion

Watertown, Massachusetts, August 28, 2012 - MassEcon has announced that [Cheer Pack North America](#) has been named among nineteen finalists from across the state for the Team Massachusetts Economic Impact Awards, awarded annually by MassEcon. The awards celebrate companies that have made an outstanding contribution to the Massachusetts economy. These finalists, representing companies from the Merrimack Valley to the Pioneer Valley, will present one-minute elevator pitches describing their growth in the Bay State to a panel of judges and business leaders on September 12, 2012 at the UMass Club in Boston. Secretary of Housing and Economic Development, Greg Bialecki, will be the featured guest at the event.

"As the state makes its way through economic recovery, we're thrilled to recognize the businesses in Massachusetts that are expanding such as Cheer Pack North America," said Susan Houston, Executive Director, MassEcon. "Our finalists demonstrate that growth in the Commonwealth is not limited to one region or one industry. We are fortunate to have such a diverse group of companies contributing to the prosperity of Massachusetts."

"We are very pleased and proud for being selected as one of the finalist for the 9th Annual Massachusetts Economic Impact Awards. It is a very exciting time for Cheer Pack North America as we move into the new facility and welcome our new employees who will be instrumental to the company's continued growth in expanding our products and service capabilities to the North American marketplace," said Blair Vance, Cheer Pack North America Director of Sales and Marketing.

MassEcon selected the finalists based on their job growth, facility expansion, and investment since January 1, 2011, as well as other criteria including community involvement. Together this year's finalists have added over 2,000 jobs to the Commonwealth, invested nearly \$250 million, and expanded their facilities by more than 1.5 million square feet since January 2011. Finalists compete on a regional basis, defined as West, Central, Southeast, Northeast, and Greater Boston. From the pool of finalists, a gold, silver, and bronze winner will be selected from each region.

"Our world-leading innovation economy is driven by entrepreneurial companies like the Team Massachusetts award finalists and other companies like them around Massachusetts," Greg Bialecki, the Secretary of Housing and Economic Development added. "The Patrick-Murray Administration appreciates the investment these firms are making in our economy and our long-term economic development plan prioritizes the innovation economy in an effort to help these companies succeed."

About Cheer Pack North America

Cheer Pack North America ([CPNA](#)) is an international partnership established in 2008 to develop and support spouted pouch technology in North America. The partnership consists of Hosokawa Yoko of Japan, Gualapack of Italy and [CDF](#) Corporation of the United States of America. Each of the three partners provides a great deal of experience and knowledge to sustain the efforts of Cheer Pack North America in the United States. www.cheerpack.com

About MassEcon

MassEcon, founded in 1993, is a non-profit, non-partisan entity that serves as the state's private sector partner in promoting Massachusetts as the premier choice for business growth. 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.

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