



American Welding Society®

MEDIA CONTACT:

Cindy Weihl
American Welding Society
800-443-9353 ext 416
cweihl@aws.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**American Welding Society's 2013 President Nancy Cole to
Receive Inaugural STEP Award**

MIAMI, Fla., December 20, 2012 – Nancy Cole, 2013 President-Elect of the American Welding Society (AWS) has been selected as an honoree for the inaugural Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Production (STEP) Award from the Manufacturing Institute, in partnership with Deloitte, University of Phoenix, and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers.

The award celebrates the achievements of women at all levels of manufacturing and was launched to honor women in the industry through leadership, research and recognition.

“Not only am I honored to receive a STEP Award but I am so grateful to the Manufacturing Institute and its partners for recognizing the role that women play in this industry,” said Cole. “As the industry continues to grow and advance it is more important than ever to attract and retain women in manufacturing.”

Cole was the first female to graduate with a degree in metallurgical engineering from the University of Tennessee and began her career at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) doing research on the corrosion of metals. Soon after, she joined ORNL's

Welding and Brazing Laboratory where she researched the joining of stainless steels, refractory metals and ceramics.

She has won several awards, including one for the best contribution to the progress of brazing. In addition, Cole has authored over 35 technical publications and holds three patents. She currently runs her own welding engineering consulting firm in Fernandina Beach, Fla.

The STEP Awards will be presented on February 5, 2013 in Washington, DC.

About AWS

The American Welding Society (AWS) was founded in 1919 as a multifaceted, nonprofit organization with a mission to advance the science, technology and application of welding and allied joining and cutting processes including brazing, soldering, and thermal spraying. Headquartered in Miami, Florida, and led by a volunteer organization of officers and directors, AWS serves nearly 70,000 members worldwide and is composed of 22 Districts with 250 Sections and student chapters. For more information, visit the society's website at <http://www.aws.org> and click on "Pressroom."

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