



FROM: MSA (Mine Safety Appliances Company)
Ticker: MSA (NYSE)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stacy McMahan Joins MSA as Senior Vice President of Finance

PITTSBURGH, December 17, 2012 – The Board of Directors of MSA (NYSE: MSA) has elected **Stacy McMahan** to the newly created position of Senior Vice President of Finance. In this capacity, Ms. McMahan will serve as an officer of the company and join MSA's Executive Leadership Team, responsible for leading the company's Internal Audit, Treasury and Global Decision Support functions. Ms. McMahan's position was created as part of the company's ongoing management succession process.

New to the company, Ms. McMahan comes to MSA with more than 23 years of finance leadership experience, most recently serving as Vice President of Finance, Customer Channels Group, for Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc. Prior to this, she spent six years with Johnson & Johnson as Vice President of Finance, and 16 years with Eli Lilly, where she served in a treasury oriented position in Brussels, Belgium; as Finance Manager in Basingstoke Hampshire, UK; and in a CFO role in Sydney, Australia.

"We are delighted to have Stacy join our executive leadership team," said Dennis Zeitler, MSA Chief Financial Officer. "Stacy brings to MSA an exceptional skill set of global financial experience, with particular expertise in operational finance and driving cost management initiatives. She also has experience in driving Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) implementations across Europe, and those skills align very well with our own Europe 2.0 initiative, which is underway now and being implemented to align our European operations under one common ERP platform."

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A native of Guymon, Ok., Ms. McMahan holds a bachelor's degree in finance from Oklahoma State University. She also earned an MBA from Harvard Business School.

Note to Local Editors: Ms. McMahan and her husband have three daughters and reside in the Mt. Lebanon area of Pittsburgh.

About MSA:

Established in 1914, MSA is the global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of safety products that protect people and facility infrastructures. Many MSA products integrate a combination of electronics, mechanical systems and advanced materials to protect users against hazardous or life-threatening situations. The company's comprehensive line of products is used by workers around the world in a broad range of industries, including the fire service, the oil, gas and petrochemical industry, construction, mining and utilities, as well as the military. Principal products include self-contained breathing apparatus, fixed gas and flame detection systems, handheld gas detection instruments, head protection products, fall protection devices and thermal imaging cameras. The company also provides a broad range of consumer and contractor safety products through a joint venture with MCR Safety. These products are marketed and sold under the Safety Works® brand. MSA, based north of Pittsburgh in Cranberry Township, Pa., has annual sales of approximately \$1.2 billion, manufacturing operations in the United States, Europe, Asia and Latin America, and 42 international locations. Additional information is available on the company's Web site at www.MSAsafety.com. Information on Safety Works products can be found at www.SafetyWorks.com.

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