



USBLN[®] and Job Accommodation Network Formalize Collaborative Partnership

For Immediate Release
January 15, 2013

Contact: Anita Howard
Phone: (800) 706-2710
anita@usbln.org

WASHINGTON, DC (January 15, 2013) – The US Business Leadership Network[®] (USBLN[®]) Executive Director, Jill Houghton, and Job Accommodation Network (JAN) Co-Directors, Anne Hirsh and Lou Orslene, have signed an alliance agreement to formalize their long standing commitment to inclusive workplace practices that lead to improved employment for people with disabilities. JAN and the USBLN[®] will continue to conduct outreach, education, and technical assistance activities promoting the reasonable accommodation and retention of individuals with disabilities among the USBLN[®]'s corporate members and affiliates. This alliance formalizes a long standing collaboration between the USBLN[®] and JAN.

The USBLN[®] is a national non-profit, non-partisan business to business network promoting workplaces, marketplaces, and supply chains where people with disabilities are included. The USBLN[®] serves as the collective voice of over 50 Business Leadership Network affiliates across the United States, representing over 5,000 businesses. BLN affiliates are business organizations headed by a lead employer who exemplifies these practices and shares experiences with other member employers within the state or region. Additionally, the USBLN[®] Disability Supplier Diversity Program[®] (DSDP) is the nation's leading third party certification program for disability-owned businesses, including service-disabled veterans. For more information, please visit USBLN.org.

“The USBLN[®] and JAN have enjoyed a strong alliance for several years. JAN is the premier resource for worksite accommodations and our partnership provides USBLN[®] corporate members and affiliates with vital job accommodation solutions resources, as well as, training from senior JAN Consultants during our annual conference,” stated **Jill Houghton**, Executive Director, USBLN[®].

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is the leading source of free, expert, and confidential guidance on workplace accommodations and disability employment issues. Working toward practical solutions that benefit both employer and employee, JAN helps people with disabilities enhance their employability, and shows employers how to capitalize on the value and talent that people with disabilities add to the workplace.

“The USBLN[®]/JAN alliance reaffirms and strengthens our mutual commitment to support employers and build more inclusive workplaces. For more than a decade, JAN has supported the USBLN[®] and its affiliates, recognizing that employers have the most salient role in ‘moving the needle’ on the employment of people with disabilities. JAN brings to the table expert accommodation consultation and training that enables employers to identify and implement job accommodation solutions. This alliance is more important than ever as aging baby boomers choose to remain in the workplace and more young people with disabilities enter into

the workforce,” said **Lou Orslene**, JAN Co-Director. JAN is a service of the Office of Disability Employment Policy of the U.S. Department of Labor. Visit AskJAN.org for more information about JAN services.

About the US Business Leadership Network® (USBLN®)

The US Business Leadership Network® (USBLN®) is a national non-profit, non-partisan business to business network promoting workplaces, marketplaces, and supply chains where people with disabilities are included. The USBLN® serves as the collective voice of over 50 Business Leadership Network affiliates across the United States, representing over 5,000 businesses. Additionally, the USBLN® Disability Supplier Diversity Program® (DSDP) is the nation’s leading third party certification program for disability-owned businesses, including service-disabled veterans. www.usbln.org

#####