

Science Education Company Entrepreneur Wins Top Business Award

Hands-On Labs, Inc. Leader Wins “Outstanding Women in Business” Award

DENVER, CO September 2, 2009 – Linda Jeschofnig, President and CEO of Hands-On Labs, Inc., producers of LabPaqs, wins a 2009 “Outstanding Women in Business” award in the small business category. This Denver Business Journal sponsored award recognizes Jeschofnig for innovation, entrepreneurship, professional accomplishments, and community leadership. *“Jeschofnig sees the future in online education,”* states the headline of her profile.

In line with her dedication to science literacy, Jeschofnig’s company, Hands-On Labs (HOL) produces LabPaqs, which are packaged collections of science laboratory experiments for both on-campus and online higher education students - www.labpaq.com. In 1994, she helped her husband, chemistry professor Dr. Peter Jeschofnig, develop a lab kit for his distance-learning students at Colorado Mountain College. HOL grew out of these efforts. Jeschofnig, then a business professor, became an entrepreneur operating out of her garage.

In 1999, Jeschofnig secured liability insurance allowing the company to expand nationally. She expanded further by sourcing bulk materials from off shore suppliers. In 2006, she moved into a Denver, Colorado warehouse and hired professional marketing and operations staff. HOL generated over 100% growth in sales revenues within two years and 400% growth in three years.

In early 2008, a re-branding effort resulted in a focus on the product, LabPaqs, and a new name, Hands-On Labs, Inc. In 2009 she implemented more growth efforts including launching a new e-commerce website and establishing a strategic alliance with McGraw Hill Higher Education. In May, HOL quadrupled its size by moving into a 28,500 square foot facility in Englewood, CO. Hands-On Labs, Inc. was named as a “Colorado Companies to Watch,” an award sponsored by the Edward Lowe Foundation. The Colorado Women’s Chamber of Commerce honored Jeschofnig as one of “2009 Top 100 Women-Owned Business.” HOL will do \$4 million in sales in 2009 and expects to double revenue in 2010.

Jeschofnig co-established a non-profit organization, Institute for Excellence in Distance Science Education (IEDSE) offering professional development programs and resources for educators teaching laboratory science courses online.

About Hands-On Labs, Inc.:

Hands-On Labs, Inc. develops and distributes LabPaqs, academically aligned collections of science materials that allow higher education students to perform course specific laboratory experiments anytime and anywhere. HOL is its industry’s leader and now produces over 90 different LabPaqs. www.labpaq.com.

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Contact: Anne Lieberman Matchett
PH 720.279.7531 866.206.0773 Anne@LabPaq.com