

## **CHERYL W. SNEAD**

### **TO BE NAMED A "2009 WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE STAR"**

#### **BY WBENC**



*Honored as One of 14 Exemplary Entrepreneurs before 1,000 at Black Tie Event*

Washington, DC and North Smithfield, RI - Cheryl W. Snead, President & CEO of Rhode Island-based Banneker Industries, Inc. will be honored as a 2009 Women's Business Enterprise Star, the nation's premier award for excellence among women's business enterprises (WBEs), by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) at its Annual Salute to Women's Business Enterprises. Mrs. Snead will receive the award acknowledging her innovation, drive and community leadership on Thursday, March 26, 2009, before 1,000 corporate executives, WBEs and government and nonprofit VIPs at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center in National Harbor, MD.

She was selected by the Center for Women & Enterprise (CWE), which conducts WBENC's world-class certification of WBEs in the six-states of New England in addition to providing skill-building educational programs and business development opportunities with major corporations.

"Cheryl illustrates this country's vital ability to build successful businesses," said Linda Denny, President and CEO of WBENC, the leading advocate for and authority on WBEs. "Her strategic vision, business acumen and sheer talent combine to meet the complex needs of corporate clients and propel our economy forward."

In 2009, WBENC is enhancing this annual event by presenting a Summit, which includes strategic educational workshops and industry meetings that will address the current and future business needs of WBEs and WBENC's Corporate Members. The Salute black-tie reception and dinner will honor the 14 Women's Business Enterprise Stars of 2009, as well as America's Top Corporations for Women's Business Enterprises for 2008.

"I am honored to be recognized by CWE and to serve on WBENC's National Leadership Forum, giving a voice to woman owned businesses here in the Northeast regarding policies and programs that will allow our businesses to not only sustain but thrive as we move forward into the future", Cheryl stated.

Mrs. Snead received her BS in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She worked for General Electric Company (GE) for six years before continuing her education. She later received her Master's Degree in Business from Krannert School of Management at Purdue University. Using her engineering expertise, Cheryl founded Banneker Industries, Inc. in 1991 as a world-class provider of supply chain management solutions. Mrs. Snead holds an honorary Doctorate Degree in Business Administration from Bryant University and is a qualified Six Sigma Specialist (Green Belt). She is a Corporate Director of Amica Insurance Company and Bank Rhode Island.

**About Banneker:** Banneker Industries<sup>1</sup> is a world-class supply chain management & logistics provider to Fortune 500 customers across the country. With operations in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Indiana, California and Texas, they are able to provide a multitude of value-added services such as warehousing, procurement, vendor management, kitting, quality inspection, fulfillment and distribution. For more information on Banneker, please visit their website at [www.banneker.com](http://www.banneker.com) or you may contact their sales team at 401-534-0027 / [sales@banneker.com](mailto:sales@banneker.com).

**About WBENC:** WBENC is the leading advocate for, and authority on, Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs) as suppliers and vendors to the nation's corporations. Founded in 1997, WBENC is also the nation's leading third-party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women, with WBENC certification accepted by more than 1,000 corporations, representing America's most prestigious brands, as well as government entities at the state, local and Federal levels.

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