ACE Clearwater's Kellie Johnson
Receives CMC Top Honor

One of the longest standing traditions of the CMC Annual Meeting is California's Erwin G. Tetzlaff Award. Named after the organization's first president, the Tetzlaff award is the highest honor CMC can bestow. **For 2021, the 43rd recipient of the award was Kellie Johnson of ACE Clearwater (Torrance).**

Kellie Johnson joined her family's business, ACE Clearwater, in 1984—working in all areas from purchasing to production control. Kellie is the third generation from her family at ACE.

She was promoted to President in 1989. And in 2002, Kellie completed the acquisition of Honeywell's metalforming business, propelling sales more than 25% in that same year.

In 2006, Kellie was appointed by Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez, under the George W. Bush administration, to serve as the Vice Chair of the Manufacturing Council. And she was reappointed to this position under the Barack Obama administration.

Kellie served on the Board of Directors for the National Association of Manufacturers, and was the Chair of NAM's Small and Medium Manufacturers group from 2010 through 2012. **From 2012-2015, she served on the Board of Directors of the California Metals Coalition**.

In the civic arena Kellie is highly involved in local education, promoting manufacturing as a creative and challenging career path. For the past four years ACE Clearwater has hosted highly successful MFGDAY for more than 650 middle school students and their teachers Her company aggressively promotes internship programs to expose young people to engineering and other manufacturing-related careers by working closely with Community Colleges and Universities.

Kellie Johnson accepted the 2021 Tetzlaff Award (*at right*) from her home on February 26th. CMC Executive Director James Simonelli spoke about Kellie's participation in the organization since 2000. She played a key role in CMC's growth, vision and regulatory strategies.

On behalf of CMC and the state's metals industry, *congratulations Kellie*!.