



NEWS RELEASE

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CITY LIGHTS PRESIDENT WINS SBA MASSACHUSETTS AND NEW ENGLAND AWARDS

BOSTON – Maryanne Cataldo, founder and president of Boston-based City Lights Electrical Co., Inc., has been named the 2003 New England and Massachusetts Entrepreneurial Success Award winner by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) according to an announcement made by Elaine Guiney, Massachusetts SBA Director.

The Entrepreneurial Success Award is presented annually to an individual who owns and operates a business that received SBA assistance when it was a small business and has since grown into a large business according to SBA size standards. Cataldo was judged on six basic criteria: Received SBA assistance that led to growth; growth in number of employees; increase in sales; current and past financial reports; innovativeness of product or service; and evidence of contributions to community-oriented projects.

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“This SBA award honors the best small business has to offer, and Maryanne Cataldo is an outstanding choice,” said Regional Administrator Jeffrey Butland. Cataldo has been named both Massachusetts and New England Regional Entrepreneurial Success Award winner, which is an outstanding testimonial, not only to her accomplishments, but to her commitment and dedication to small business success and community service as well. I join my SBA colleagues in congratulating Maryanne Cataldo and her colleagues at City Lights on this significant achievement.”

Maryanne Cataldo is a Master Electrician and Harvard MBA with 20 years in the electrical industry. She has grown this full-service electrical construction business, which specializes in commercial, industrial and institutional projects, into a very successful \$25 million firm with 245 employees. Among many other high-profile projects, City Lights completed a \$7 million contract to upgrade baggage security systems at Logan Airport.

“Maryanne Cataldo is a leader in both her community and the electrical construction industry,” said Elaine Guiney, Massachusetts SBA Director. “The SBA is proud to have been able to help City Lights in 1992 with a \$100,000 loan in participation with Fleet Bank to help the company grow to the next level. At that time City Lights employed 12 and posted revenues of under \$2 million. This is a great small business success story.”

Cataldo will be honored at an awards luncheon at the Boston Marriott Copley Place at noontime on September 12, 2003. The Massachusetts Small Business Person of the Year, Holly Safford, President of The Catered Affair in Hingham, will be honored along with other small business advocates from throughout the commonwealth. The event is open to the public and those interested in attending should contact Christine Carter at SBA at 617-565-5560.

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