



Certification of Disability  
Management Specialists  
COMMISSION

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## **CDMS Commission and US Business Leadership Network<sup>®</sup> Form Alliance**

SCHAUMBURG, August 24, 2011 . The Certification of Disability Management Specialists Commission (CDMS Commission) and the US Business Leadership Network<sup>®</sup> (USBLN<sup>®</sup>) are pleased to announce they have entered into a memorandum of understanding to establish an alliance to further the mission and goals of both organizations.

The alliance brings together CDMS Commission, which is the only independent, nationally accredited organization that certifies disability management specialists, with the USBLN<sup>®</sup>, which is the national disability organization that serves as the collective voice of over 60 Business Leadership Network affiliates across North America, representing over 5,000 employers.

The two organizations believe the alliance is particularly timely and meaningful, given the efforts of many employers to address disability in the workplace in a proactive way that champions opportunities for workers of all abilities, while utilizing integrated disability management to improve productivity and reduce absenteeism.

"We are truly excited about the opportunity to champion disability inclusion through our alliance with the CDMS Commission. Our partnership will further our mission to build workplaces, marketplaces and supply chains where people with disabilities can realize their full potential and be respected for their talents, economic self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship," summarized Jill Houghton, USBLN<sup>®</sup> Executive Director.

As part of the alliance agreement, the CDMS Commission will contribute to the planning of the USBLN<sup>®</sup> annual conference, and will present at the event each year on the topic of certification. Those who hold the Certified Disability Management Specialist (CDMS) certification, as well as Associate Disability Management Specialist<sup>SM</sup> (ADMS) designees, will be eligible to receive continuing education (CE) units for attending the conference. In addition, the CDMS Commission will present its 2011 Quality Leadership Award to an employer at the USBLN annual conference scheduled for October 2011.

This alliance aligns with our strategy to educate employers about the importance of managing disability and absence for the benefit of employee health and productivity,+stated Edwin Quick, the CDMS Commission chair. This memorandum of understanding is an important milestone in the Commission's outreach to employers.+

Further, the CDMS Commission believes the alliance with USBLN® and its impressive network of member companies will further the Commission's efforts to educate employers about the benefits of integrated disability management and the importance of certification.

### **About the Organizations**

The CDMS Commission is the only independent, nationally accredited organization that certifies disability management specialists. The CDMS credential promotes competence, high professional standards, and ethical practice in the field. Its certification has long stood for excellence in disability management, protection of the public, and helping employers to achieve employee health and productivity goals. It is a gold standard in workplace solutions to promote opportunities for all individuals based on their abilities and regardless of disability. Visit [www.cdms.org](http://www.cdms.org) for more information.

The US Business Leadership Network® (USBLN®) is the national disability organization that serves as the collective voice of over 60 Business Leadership Network affiliates across North America, representing over 5,000 employers. The USBLN® promotes the business imperative of the preparation and inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace, marketplace, and supply chain while supporting the development and expansion of its BLN affiliates. The USBLN® recognizes and supports best practices in hiring and advancing employees with disabilities, marketing to consumers with disabilities, and encourages contracting with vendors with disabilities through the development and certification of disability-owned businesses. [www.usbln.org](http://www.usbln.org)