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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Deb Whitworth to Introduce New HR Certification

Portland, Maine, September 13, 2014 — Northcross Group Development Director Deb Whitworth, serving as Maine State Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM) Council Director, presented a state-wide human resources update to the Maine Society for Healthcare Human Resources Association Conference attendees on September 12 in Phippsburg, Maine.

Her presentation focused on SHRM's newly branded certification: SHRM Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) and SHRM Senior Certified Professional (SHRM SCP). SHRM launched an unparalleled study to define not only the knowledge but also the competencies required of today's HR leaders. As a result SHRM Competency Model was created, which forms the important foundation for the new SHRM Certification. Over 30,000 human resources professionals worldwide participated in this research.

Many HR professionals are familiar with the PHR, SPHR, and GPHR certification provided by the HR Certification Institute, or HRCI—Professional in Human Resources, Senior Professional in Human Resources, or Global Professional in Human Resources. "Many of us in this room are either PHR or SPHR certified. And we have been for years. I've been certified since 2002. This certification means something and has become more and more recognized in the business community. It's not something I plan to give up," says Deb Whitworth, SPHR.

HR professionals who are currently certified by HRCI and in good standing are eligible for the new SHRM certification at no cost beginning on January 1, 2015. "You'll have a year until December 31, 2015, to document that your current certification is in good standing, read and sign the SHRM Code of Ethics, and complete a brief online tutorial on HR competencies. You'll then have three years before you are required to submit recertification credits for approval," explains Deb Whitworth. When asked about her own plans for recertification, Ms. Whitworth added: "I plan to carry dual certification."

To learn more about the new certification, HR professionals can attend the SHRM webinar on October 21 at 2:00 p.m. To register for the event, please visit:

<https://event.on24.com/eventRegistration/EventLobbyServlet?target=registration.jsp&eventid=830665&sessionid=1&key=A0FF023F63D764942D4B06ABFE05CAA8&sourcepage=register>.

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