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MARSHA SERLIN RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD BY ILLINOIS RECYCLING ASSOCIATION

CHICAGO—

Marsha Serlin founded United Scrap Metal (USM) as a single mother with two children to support. She had no money in the bank, a void of business experience and lacked any recycling industry background. Marsha knew that in order to reclaim her life and emerge from financial ruins, she'd have to build it! Thirty three years later and many thousands of truckloads later – Marsha has survived and also thrived.

Last week, the Illinois Recycling Association honored Marsha with a Lifetime Achievement Award. This special recognition acknowledges entrepreneurial spirit, innovation and perseverance.

When Marsha started the business in 1978, there were no other women in the country who owned and operated a company of this nature. Today, USM is positioned as one of the largest privately owned recyclers in the Midwest. Marsha is not only a face for women and entrepreneurship, but for the recycling industry as a whole.

Marsha's attitude is "if it can be recycled, we will take it!" This includes metal, paper, plastic, wood and rubber. As one of the first to implement comprehensive recycling, USM has been successful in saving its customers millions of dollars, while reducing their overall waste stream volumes and extending the life of landfills. Today customers span a wide array of market segments such as manufacturing, demolition/construction, utilities and service centers. Clients range from Fortune 1000 companies to small businesses throughout the U.S.

Other honorees at the event, in different categories, included Mel Nickerson, Environmental Law & Policy Center, Gary Mielke, Kane County Environmental Management and others. The conference and dinner took place at the Hilton Hotel in Springfield, IL. For more information about the conference, go to www.illinoisjointconference.com.

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If you would like more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Marsha Serlin, please contact Rebecca Gruenspan at 708-780-5324 or rgruenspan@unitedscrap.com.