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Kellan Longenecker of General Mills Named Chair of ABI Board of Directors

Industry leader brings deep manufacturing experience and people-first mindset to statewide business organization

DES MOINES, Iowa – The Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) is pleased to announce the election of Kellan Longenecker, Global Supply Chain Learning and Development Lead at General Mills Inc., as the 2025 Chair of its Board of Directors.

Longenecker brings more than two decades of manufacturing and supply chain experience to the role, along with a strong focus on talent development, culture, and workforce engagement. As Chair, she will guide the ABI Board in advancing key business priorities, building strategic partnerships, and supporting Iowa's pro-growth business climate.

"ABI has long played a critical role in helping Iowa businesses grow and lead," said Longenecker. "It's an honor to serve as Chair and to work alongside leaders who care deeply about our state's economic future. I look forward to contributing to ABI's efforts in meaningful ways."

Longenecker's career with General Mills spans plant operations, leadership development, and human resources, most recently with a focus on global diversity and inclusion strategy within the company's supply chain. Based at the Avon Plant in Carlisle, she supports efforts to build strong, inclusive teams across General Mills facilities nationwide and continues to be a vocal advocate for Iowa manufacturing and workforce development.

A champion for elevating the next generation of industry leaders, Longenecker has served as a mentor, board member, and Elevate Advanced Manufacturing Ambassador. Her passion for manufacturing is rooted in hands-on problem-solving, innovation, and building products that people rely on every day.

"Manufacturing is an industry where people and technology come together to solve problems and create products that improve lives," Longenecker shared in a previous ABI Women in Manufacturing feature. "There's nothing more energizing than being part of that process and working with the people who make it all happen."

"Kellan brings a thoughtful, steady approach to leadership that reflects the best of Iowa industry," said Nicole Crain, President of ABI. "Her experience and perspective will serve our members well as she helps guide ABI's priorities in the year ahead."

Longenecker was elected during ABI's annual Taking Care of Business Conference and succeeds Chad Reece of Winnebago Industries, who led the board through a successful 2024-25 term.

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The Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI) has been the voice of Iowa business since 1903. Its mission is to provide a strong, unified voice to business and industry on issues affecting Iowa employers.



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ABI is comprised of member companies representing all industries and sizes in Iowa's 99 counties. ABI members employ more than 330,000 Iowans.