

**Linda Arneson, Delta Dental of Colorado's
Vice President and COO, Celebrates her 40th Anniversary with the Company**

For more information, contact:

Kathleen Bohland
(303) 904-8585
kbohland@me.com

DENVER – (Feb. 22, 2012) – Delta Dental of Colorado Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Linda Arneson celebrated her 40th anniversary with the company this month.

When Arneson first started at Delta Dental of Colorado in 1971, she had a temporary position working as a file clerk. She was 18 years old and the company was called Colorado Dental Service. There were a handful of employees who worked out of a two-bedroom apartment in Denver.

She was officially hired on Jan. 31, 1972, and she hasn't looked back. Arneson has come a long way since then, working in nearly every Delta Dental department and seeing the organization through 40 years of changes and improvements. She's overseen three conversions from paper to computer in the 1980s and through the adoption of increasingly complex claims systems since then.

She earned her business degree at Regis University while working at Delta Dental of Colorado and attended Harvard University's Program for Management Development.

Continuous improvement for herself and the organization has been an important theme for Arneson over the last four decades as she's worked to make Delta Dental of Colorado successful.

"I'm always asking, 'How can we be better and stronger?'" she says. "We're not always going to win on price. It helps to create relationships to get things done."

Arneson's colleagues consider her the company historian and the go-to person when something needs to be done right. She's had that role from the beginning; she's been a manager since age 26.

"Linda is an invaluable asset to Delta Dental of Colorado, and we appreciate all she's done for us," says Kate Paul, Delta Dental President and CEO. "We wouldn't be the organization we are today without Linda's contributions."

Not many people stay at one company for four decades. For Arneson, it was about finding new challenges throughout her career.

“I’ve always been able to find opportunities here, to create and do different things,” she says.
“That’s why I’ve stayed for 40 years.”

Delta Dental of Colorado is the state’s oldest and largest dental benefits company, serving more than a million members.