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Zones Honored as a Winner of Microsoft's Excellence in Operations Award

AUBURN, Wash., September 17, 2015 — Today, <u>Zones, Inc.</u>, announced it has won the Excellence in Operations Award for delivering market-leading operational excellence supporting Microsoft technology over the past year. This marks the ninth time that Zones has been recognized for excellence in operations by Microsoft, and the second award given to Zones by Microsoft in 2015.

"Zones and Microsoft have worked together successfully in key segments around strategic initiatives, including software, hardware and cloud solutions," said Todd Leeson, vice president of Partner and Product Marketing, Software, at Zones. "Winning the Microsoft Excellence in Operations Award for the ninth time emphasizes our commitment to the Microsoft platform and demonstrates our ability to deliver positive business outcomes for our customers."

Partners achieving this award exhibited best-in-class performance in the North American channel. Zones was recognized for superior operational excellence by meeting, exceeding, or strongly trending toward specific requirements that drive valid agreements/orders, query reductions, and efficient orders. By meeting, exceeding, or strongly trending toward these conditions, recipients have demonstrated their commitment to Microsoft and its end-customers.

"Microsoft continues to innovate and drive improvements that empower our customers and our partners. The Operations Excellence Award recognizes our partners that are committed to working towards best in class customer service and for that we thank them and look forward to a long, strong partnership," said Owen Roberts, general manager of Microsoft's Americas Operations Center. Earlier in 2015, <u>Zones was recognized by Microsoft as the recipient of a 2015 Supplier Diversity Award</u>. The Microsoft Supplier Program awards recognize superior performance, exemplary service and innovation by suppliers that demonstrate what it means to be a preferred supplier at Microsoft.

About Zones

Zones, Inc., supports business, healthcare, the public sector and specialty markets by applying innovative technology solutions across a variety of specializations including networking, security, software, storage, mobility, data center and virtualization. Zones holds the highest levels of technical certification from every key solution provider we represent, including Cisco Gold, EMC, Dell Server and Storage Technical, IBM System and Storage Technical, Hewlett Packard Enterprise and VMware Infrastructure, among others. Zones is a nine-time recipient of the Microsoft Excellence in Operations award. Incorporated in 1988, Zones is headquartered in Auburn, Wash., and is a certified MBE company.

For additional information, visit <u>www.zones.com</u> or call (800) 408-9663.

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