

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Zones Named 2015 Regional Supplier of the Year by the National Minority Supplier Development Council

Zones Eligible for National Supplier of the Year Honors

AUBURN, Wash., August 25, 2015 — <u>Zones, Inc.</u>, today announced that it has received a 2015 Regional Supplier of the Year Award from the <u>National Minority Supplier Development Council</u> (NMSDC). As a Regional Supplier of the Year, Zones is eligible for National Supplier of the Year honors, which will be announced at the <u>NMSDC Conference Awards Banquet</u> later this fall.

The Regional Supplier of the Year Awards are given annually to minority suppliers who have distinguished themselves and their businesses by successfully demonstrating growth in sales and employment, consistently providing high-quality products, services and solutions at competitive prices, and significantly contributing to the growth and development of the communities in which they operate.

"There are more than 12,000 NMSDC-certified minority business enterprises (MBE) nationwide who could have received this recognition," said Murray Wright, president and CEO at Zones. "To be considered for the National Supplier of the Year Award is a testament to our team's focus on enhancing and differentiating our customers' experiences with Zones over the past year. We thank the NMSDC for the Regional Supplier of the Year Award and look forward to helping our customers reach even higher levels of success in the future."

This Regional Supplier of the Year Award from the NMSDC follows prior recognition from the Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council (NW MTN MSDC), which named <u>Zones</u> the Class IV Supplier of the Year in March.

"Zones is a great example of a company with a robust supplier diversity program supported throughout the organization," said Fernando Martinez, president and CEO of the NW MTN MSDC. "Zones' recognition as Regional Supplier of the Year is a well-deserved honor. It is a privilege for our Council to work closely with Zones to promote supplier diversity in the Northwest Mountain region."

Zones is often recognized for excellence within its established <u>MBE program</u>. In addition to the Class IV Supplier of the Year award from the NW MTN MSDC, Zones was recently awarded the <u>2015 Supplier</u> <u>Diversity Award from Microsoft</u>, which the company has won three times. <u>Tyson Foods named Zones</u> <u>Diverse Supplier of the Year in 2015</u>, the second time in the five years Zones has received this recognition. Zones also received <u>Premier, Inc.'s Supplier Diversity Award</u> in 2014. Also in 2014, Zones Chairman of the Board Firoz Lalji was inducted into the MBE Hall of Fame and Museum.

Based in Auburn, Wash., Zones is a global solutions provider with over \$1.5 billion in revenue. Zones is a certified MBE and Corporate Plus Member under the guidelines of the NMSDC and is a proud member of the NW MTN MSDC. Zones' MBE certification allows organizations of all sizes the ability to meet their company's diversity requirements.

## **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 Velocity Premier, Dell Server and Storage Technical, IBM System and Storage Technical, HP Enterprise Networking and VMware Infrastructure, among others. Zones is an eight-time recipient of the Microsoft Excellence in Operations award and was also recognized as the 2013 Microsoft Partner of the Year for Volume Licensing. 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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