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Zones, Inc. Recertified as Cisco Gold Partner

Zones Also Recertifies Specializations in Advanced Data Center, Advanced Collaboration and Advanced Borderless Network Architectures

AUBURN, Wash., December 2, 2013 — <u>Zones, Inc.</u> announced today it has been recertified as a <u>Cisco[®]</u> <u>Gold Partner</u>. To earn this recertification, Zones continues to meet rigorous standards set forth by Cisco in networking competency, service, support and customer satisfaction.

"Achieving recertification as a Cisco Gold Partner assures our customers that Zones has the knowledge and tools required to ensure success with their Cisco implementations," said Mike Dennis, vice president of partner and product marketing at Zones. "Cisco is a key strategic partner for Zones, and as our Cisco practice continues to grow, our ongoing certification as a Cisco Gold Partner validates our expertise."

"We are committed to providing the tools, training and programs that facilitate partner growth, differentiation and profitability," said Edison Peres, senior vice president of worldwide channels at Cisco. "With specializations in unified communications, routing and switching, security, and wireless LAN, Zones has made an investment in developing the capability to deliver the integrated and customized technology solutions that today's customers demand."

The <u>Cisco Resale Channel Program</u> provides a framework for partners to build the sales, technical and Cisco Lifecycle Services skills required to deliver Cisco solutions to end customers. Through the program's specializations and certifications, Cisco recognizes a partner's expertise in deploying solutions based on Cisco advanced technologies and services. Using a third-party audit process, the program

validates a partner's technology skills, business practices, customer satisfaction, presales and postsales support capabilities, and other critical factors that customers consider when choosing a trusted partner.

As a recertified Cisco Gold Partner, Zones continues to meet the requirements for attaining the broadest range of expertise across multiple technologies by achieving Cisco specializations in advanced data center, advanced collaboration and advanced borderless network architectures. In addition, Zones has integrated Cisco Lifecycle Services into its offerings and is required to maintain high levels of customer satisfaction. Cisco Gold Certification provides Zones with access to comprehensive sales, technical, and lifecycle services training and support available from Cisco.

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, data center and virtualization. Zones holds more than 55 of the highest distinct certifications in the industry, 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 a seven-time recipient of the Microsoft Operational Excellence 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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