

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Susanne Smith

Zones, Inc. (253) 347-5780

Zones Named MBE Class IV Supplier of the Year by the Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council

Zones Receives Prestigious Supplier Diversity Award for the Third Time

AUBURN, Wash., March 18, 2015 — Zones, Inc., today announced that it has been named Class IV Supplier of the Year for the third time by the Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council (MSDC). The award was presented during the 2015 Northwest Mountain MSDC Business Conference and Awards Dinner held March 13, 2015, in Bellevue, Wash.

The Northwest Mountain MSDC Supplier of the Year awards recognize minority business enterprises (MBE) that have shown outstanding performance and commitment to minority business development over the past year. Zones was nominated to receive this honor by Seattle Public Utilities, a long-time Zones customer.

"The Northwest Mountain MSDC applauds Zones for excellence in its business practices and for participating in the minority business community," said Fernando Martinez, president at the Northwest Mountain MSDC. "Zones offers a world-class diversity program with established roots in the local Seattle community, and we congratulate them on this well-deserved recognition."

Based in Auburn, Wash., Zones is a global solutions provider with over \$1.4 billion in revenue. Zones, consistently recognized by the Puget Sound Business Journal as the largest MBE in the state, is a certified MBE and Corporate Plus Member under the guidelines of the National Minority Supplier Development Council and is a proud member of the Northwest Mountain MSDC. Zones' MBE certification allows organizations of all sizes the ability to meet their company's diversity requirements.

"As a three-time winner of this award from the Northwest Mountain MSDC, Zones has a long and successful history as a certified minority business enterprise," said Murray Wright, CEO and president at Zones. "We are proud of this recognition, as it emphasizes the importance of relationships between minority-owned businesses and the organization's members. Additionally, we thank Seattle Public Utilities for nominating Zones, and we look forward to continuing to meet their IT needs long into the future."

Zones has often been recognized for its ongoing MBE program. Zones 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. Find more information regarding Zones' MBE certification here.

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 www.zones.com or call (800) 408-9663.

###