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Zones Recognized a Fifth Time as MBE Class IV Supplier of the Year

The Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Diversity Council Awards Zones for its Commitment to Diversity

AUBURN, Wash., March 12, 2018 — Zones, Inc., today announced that it has been named Class IV Supplier of the Year for the fifth time since 2005 by the <u>Northwest Mountain Minority Supplier Diversity Council</u> (MSDC). The award was presented during the 2018 Northwest Mountain MSDC Annual Awards & Silent Auction held March 8, 2018.

"Zones consistently and continuously demonstrates their commitment to supply chain diversity," said Fernando Martinez, President and CEO of the Northwest Mountain MSDC. "The quality and value Zones delivers to our Council's corporate and public members illustrates their commitment to excellence and merits their recognition as Supplier of the Year. Their commitment to giving back to the community, making this world a better place, comes from Zones' heart and their value system. Thank you to Zones for being part of our organization."

The Northwest Mountain MSDC corporate and public agency nominates certified minority business enterprises (MBEs) as supplier of the year for each certification class. Suppliers receiving the award have demonstrated exceptional performance and a solid commitment to minority business development over the previous year.

Zones reached \$2 billion in sales for 2017 and was recently named to the Elite 150 as a part of the CRN Managed Service Providers (MSP) 500 list. Zones has also been recognized by the Puget Sound Business Journal as the largest MBE in the state of Washington and holds an elite Corporate Plus certification under the guidelines of the National Minority Supplier Development Council. The MBE certification enables Zones customers of all sizes to support growth of the diversity community while also meeting company diversity requirements when sourcing products and solutions.

"It is an honor to be recognized for a fifth time by the Northwest Mountain MSDC," said Firoz Lalji, Chairman, President, and CEO at Zones. "We are proud of our corporate history and commitment to building and maintaining ongoing relationships with the MSDC, our partners, and our customers. Diversity has been a longstanding value in our company and we would like to thank the council and our customers dedicated to supporting supplier diversity for the nomination and their continued partnership."

Zones has been recognized on multiple occasions for its ongoing MBE program. More information regarding MBE certification for Zones can be found on the <u>Zones Supplier Diversity</u> page on <u>Zones.com</u>.

About Zones

Zones, Inc., a \$2 billion global IT solutions provider, delivers products and services to help companies make a complete digital transformation – from desktop to data center – to the cloud and beyond. Our expertise is reflected in our solutions environments: Workplace Modernization, Network Optimization, Data Center Transformation and Security Fortification. We leverage a deep portfolio from top-tier technology brands to enable scalability, security, and efficient IT deployments, utilizing the highest levels of technical certification from key partners, including Cisco Gold, Dell EMC Titanium, HPE Platinum, among others. Zones was named to the 2018 CRN Managed Services Provider 500 list as a member of the Elite 150, and is an eleven-time recipient of the Microsoft Excellence in Operations award. Headquartered in Auburn, Wash., Zones operates in more than 80 countries, with multiple regional and executive offices, several distribution facilities, IT partners, and a number of service affiliates around the world. As a certified Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), and holder of an elite Corporate Plus Certification, we've proven our ability to support many of the world's largest corporations. For additional information, visit the company's website at <u>www.zones.com</u> or call (800) 408-9663. Follow Zones on Twitter <u>@Zones</u> and on LinkedIn at Zones, Inc.

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