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ZONES

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Zones, Inc., Honored as a Winner of Microsoft's Excellence in Operations – Gold Level Award

For the Eleventh Time, Zones Receives

Microsoft Excellence in Operations Award

AUBURN, Wash., August 29, 2017 — Zones, Inc., today announced that it has won the Gold Level Excellence in Operations Award for delivering market-leading operational excellence supporting Microsoft technology over the past year. The Gold Level Award is the highest honor achieved within the Excellence in Operations Awards program. This marks the eleventh time that Zones has been recognized for excellence in operations by Microsoft.

"Zones' dedicated Microsoft practice ensures that our clients around the globe are getting the greatest value and productivity from Microsoft solutions," said Byron Fehler, Vice President and General Manager for the software and cloud business at Zones. "Winning the Microsoft Excellence in Operations Gold Level Award illustrates our continued commitment to Microsoft. It also emphasizes our ability to optimize the Microsoft 365 Enterprise experience, and it demonstrates our expertise with data center transformation, utilizing Microsoft's Azure Platform, which helps us to enable our customers and lets them quickly evolve their current business model." Fehler goes on to say, "our interdisciplinary solutions teams focus on operational fundamentals that allow us to scale with speed and flawless execution, helping us drive significant growth in cloud sales."

Partners achieving this award exhibited best-in-class performance in the North American channel. Zones was recognized for superior operational excellence by delivering one or more successful process improvement projects to optimize their operations. These projects helped establish continued success throughout the business for Microsoft, the Partner, and our customers. Furthermore, by achieving the Gold Level Award, Zones has not only satisfied all the requirements of the Silver award, but has also implemented changes that exceeded expectations of the business.

"At Microsoft, we are extremely fortunate to work with incredibly passionate partners that consistently seek and drive improvements that empower our customers. The Operations Excellence Award recognizes our partners that are committed to the growth mindset of delivering high quality, innovative solutions and an exemplary customer experience. We thank them for their achievements in optimizing their operations and look forward to a continued long, strong partnership." – Owen Roberts, General Manager of Microsoft's Americas Operations Center

About Zones

Zones, Inc. is a leading global IT solutions provider of advanced technology and services focusing on digital modernization, network optimization, and data center transformation. We deliver complex IT solutions simply across the IT infrastructure including Data Center, Mobility, Unified Communications, Cloud, Security, and Internet of Things. Zones is transforming business, healthcare, public sector, and retail by finding new ways for technology to take ideas from concept to reality. Zones holds the highest levels of technical certification from every key IT provider we represent, including Microsoft Gold, Cisco Gold, Dell EMC Titanium, HPE Platinum, among others. Zones operates in more than 80 countries around the world, with corporate offices, distribution facilities, IT partners, and service affiliates on six continents. 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>zones.com</u> or call (800) 408-9663. Follow Zones on Twitter @Zones and on LinkedIn at Zones, Inc.

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