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THE GREATER WOMEN'S BUSINESS COUNCIL NAMES BEST-IN-CLASS CORPORATIONS DURING ITS 2014 TOP CORPORATIONS OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Honorees' Supplier Diversity Achievements Underscores the Region's Thriving Populace and Opportunities for Women-Owned Businesses

ATLANTA (May 2014) – The Greater Women's Business Council, Inc. (GWBC[®]), the largest provider of certification and development resources for women business enterprises (WBEs) in Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina, announced eight corporations selected as its TOP Corporations of the Year (TOP). Accenture, AT&T, BMW Manufacturing Co., Delta Air Lines, Georgia Power, Randstad, The Coca-Cola Company and UPS were honored on May 14 during a ceremonial luncheon at Midtown Atlanta's Twelve Hotel for their demonstrated passion for inspiring, engaging and empowering WBEs.

GWBC[®]'s **TOP Corporations of the Year Awards** is unique in that each corporate honoree's award is presented through a real-world testimony of a WBE partner whose business has been directly impacted by their support. Guided by WXIA-TV's Karyn Greer who served as Mistress of Ceremonies, the program also included special **GWBC**[®] recognitions and highlights of its upcoming 2014 activities.

"This occasion is so special because it's a rare glimpse of our mission realized in one room, at one moment in time," said Roz Lewis, president and CEO of **GWBC**[®]. "We don't just hand-over another accolade. We experience the power of the partnerships through the success stories of the suppliers and honorees."

It's of little surprise that the corporate recognitions went to the region's usual suspects of exemplary supplier diversity giants; however the WBE participants reveals the growing industries for women-owned businesses such as IT, Staffing, Events, Print and Design and Telecommunications. TOP Honorees and Presenters included:

- Accenture: GWBC Corporate Member L. Craig Ramsey, presented by WBE Avion, Systems, Inc.
- AT&T: GWBC Corporate Member Stephanie Pulliam presented by WBE PS Energy Group, Inc.
- BMW Manufacturing Co.: GWBC Corporate Member Louise Connell presented by WBE ForceOne, Solutions, Inc.
- Delta Air Lines: GWBC Corporate Member Dave Huseth presented by WBE VonCreations, Inc.
- Georgia Power: GWBC Corporate Member Ken Huff presented by WBE Exhibits South, Inc.
- Randstad: GWBC Corporate Member Brenda Richard presented by WBE Rose International, Inc.
- The Coca-Cola Company: GWBC Corporate Member Terrez Thompson presented by WBE InterPrint Communications, Inc.
- UPS: GWBC Corporate Member Gary Kallenbach presented by WBE Hired By Matrix, Inc.

Judged by a panel of WBEs, criteria for the GWBC[®] Top Corporations of the Year Awards include corporations that are members of the organization; have a dedicated supplier diversity program serving Georgia and the Carolinas; meet and exceed spend goals with WBEs; and actively participate in educational and development activities with WBEs in the region. GWBC[®] Top Corporations of the Year Awards is sponsored by Accenture, Aflac, AT&T, Berry Technology Solutions, BMW Manufacturing Co., The Clorox Company, The Coca-Cola Company, Cox Enterprises, Inc., Crescent Construction Services, Delta Air Lines, Exhibits South, Georgia Power, Grady Health System, Innolect, PS Energy Group, Randstad, Sonoco, UPS, Wells Fargo and WDS, among others.

For more information on **GWBC**[®] or its **TOP Corporations of the Year Awards**, visit <u>www.gwbc.biz</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>. For press inquiries, contact Nichole Taylor at taylor@taylorcommunicationsgroup.com.



ABOUT THE GREATER WOMEN'S BUSINESS COUNCIL, INC.

The Greater Women's Business Council, Inc. (GWBC[®]) is a not-for-profit women's organization that provides nationally-recognized certification through its Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) network, innovative programming and value-driven events customized to the unique needs of women business owners (WBEs) in Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina. GWBC[®]'s constituency is comprised of more than 900 certified WBEs, dozens of corporate member partners, government entities and business alliances united to inspire, engage and empower women-owned businesses. A Regional Partner Organization of WBENC, GWBC[®] is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia with a satellite office in the Carolinas.

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