



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Puttin' on the Ritz Gala Recognizes Eleven Supplier Diversity Champions & Minority Businesses**

**OAKLAND, Calif., April 23** -- The Northern California Minority Supplier Development Council (NCMSDC), a local non-profit dedicated to promoting minority supplier development, announced the winners of its Excellence in Supplier Diversity Awards at its 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala on April 12, 2013 at The Ritz-Carlton in San Francisco. Present to celebrate the eleven award winners were over 350 guests from major Fortune 500 corporations, Minority-owned Business Enterprises (MBEs), and strategic alliance partners.

Over forty Corporate Members and certified MBEs competed for eleven distinguished awards celebrating individual and corporate achievements in the calendar year 2012. A list of Excellence in Supplier Diversity Award winners follows:

**Corporation of the Year**

*Tier 1 Winner: AT&T*

*Tier 2 Winner: Pacific Gas and Electric Company*

**Executive of the Year: Bernard Tyson**, Chairman/CEO-elect, Kaiser Permanente

**Supplier Diversity Leader of the Year: Joan Kerr**, Director, Supplier Diversity and Sustainability, Pacific Gas and Electric Company

**MBE Choice Award: Kaiser Permanente**

**Sourcing Manager of the Year: Edward Mosley**, Program Director, Kaiser Permanente

**Corporate Buyer of the Year: Cynthia Olson**, Procurement Associate, Purchasing, Pacific Gas and Electric Company

**Supplier of the Year**

*Class 1 Winner* (Annual sales less than \$1M): **Inproma, LLC**

*Class 2 Winner* (Annual sales from \$1M-\$10M): **ICE Safety Solutions**

*Class 3 Winner* (Annual sales from \$10M-\$50M): **Way To Be Designs, LLC**

*Class 4 Winner* (Annual sales greater than \$50M): **World Wide Technology, Inc.**

**About the Northern California Minority Supplier Development Council:**

The Northern California Minority Supplier Development Council (NCMSDC) promotes minority participation in the procurement process to create economic wealth in minority business communities in Northern California, Hawaii, and the nation. Please visit us online at [www.ncmsdc.org](http://www.ncmsdc.org).

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