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For immediate release.

PACE Technologies Corporation Receives 2015 President's "E" Award for Exports

PACE Technologies Corporation in Tucson, Ariz., was recognized by President Barak Obama today with the Presidential "E" Award for contributing to national export expansion efforts that help build the U.S. economy and create American jobs.

The prestigious award, which is the highest recognition an entity in the United States can receive for the expansion of exporting efforts, was presented by U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker at the Herbert C. Hoover Building in Washington, D.C.

"Exporting has been critically important for our company and for the clients we serve," said PACE Technologies Vice President Donald Zipperian. "Even a small business like PACE can grow into a global competitor, thanks to the advent of electronic communications."

To celebrate the award, PACE Technologies, along with U.S. Representative Martha McSally, will raise the "E" Flag at company headquarters, 3601 E. 34th St., Tucson, Ariz., in a ceremony starting at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 26.

Last year, PACE Technologies exported to 54 countries and has 25 distributors located outside the United States.

"Our international sales represent close to 50 percent of our revenues," Zipperian said. "These sales were very important in sustaining our growth during the domestic economic downturn. Exporting has been a critical component of our growth."

PACE Technologies provides surface finishing technology for materials analysis, including laboratory metallographic testing consumables and equipment. PACE, which has been based in Tucson since 2002, also provides the surface finishing industry with customized abrasives and polishing procedures.

The company provides high-tech products and services to support industries that are vital to the economy, including aerospace, biomedical devices, materials science education, automotive, and electronics.

"The President's "E" Award winners are outstanding American businesses and organizations that have played a crucial role in strengthening and growing our economy through increased U.S. exports," said Secretary Pritzker. "By selling made-in-America goods and services internationally, winners are creating jobs in Arizona and their local communities. Congratulations to PACE Technologies. Exports are critical to our nation's competitiveness in the global marketplace and solidify our country's economic leadership across the globe."



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She said the company's introduction of new product lines for foreign markets was also particularly notable. "PACE Technologies' achievements have undoubtedly contributed to national export expansion efforts that support the U.S. economy and create American jobs," Pritzker said.

PACE Technologies, one of 45 U.S. companies to receive the award in 2015, was nominated for the "E" Award for Exports by the Tucson branch of the U.S. Department of Commerce Export Assistance Center. PACE Technologies works closely with the U.S. Commercial Service, benefiting from their market research, export counseling and partner match services.

The award recognizes a demonstrable increase of exports over a four-year period.

History of the "E" Award

During World War II, more than 4,000 "E" Pennants were presented to war plants in recognition of production excellence. The famous flag with the large "E" emblazoned on it became a badge of patriotism in action. President John F. Kennedy revived the World War II "E" symbol of excellence to honor and provide recognition of America's exporters, and the "E" Award Program was established by Executive Order 10978 on Dec. 5, 1961.

About Donald Zipperian

Donald Zipperian was born in Butte, Montana, in 1959. He studied Metallurgical Engineering, Metallurgy and Materials Science at the University of Arizona, receiving his Ph.D. in Materials Science in 1987. Don also received an MBA from Lake Forrest Graduate College in 1995. For more than 25 years, Don has worked in research and development of metallographic specimen preparation, and grinding and polishing of advanced materials. He is the author and co-author of numerous technical papers in the field of materials science, and has been an Adjunct Professor at the University of Arizona and Clemson University. In 1998, Don co-founded PACE Technologies in Illinois. In 2002, he took full ownership of the company and moved operations to Tucson, Arizona, where he continues to reside and work as CEO and CTO of PACE Technologies.

About PACE Technologies Corporation

PACE Technologies was founded in 1998, with the company mission of providing quality, economical micro-precision surface finishing products for data storage, semiconductor, optics and metallographic industries, both domestic and international. Since its inception, PACE Technologies has continued to innovate and expand by researching new industry techniques and products, and introduced an equipment line in 2008. Since relocating all company operations to Tucson, Arizona in 2002, PACE Technologies has become a fixture in the local economy by providing quality employment opportunities, supporting other local businesses, and collaborating with other businesses and local agencies to increase the presence of Southern Arizona interests on both the domestic and world stage.