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Global Sourcing Council Announces the 2012 3S AWARDS Winners!

GSC 3S Awards – Sustainable & Socially Responsible Sourcing : Sourcing that Empowers

NEW YORK, N.Y. (October 23, 2012) – The Global Sourcing Council announced the 2012 GSC 3S Awards (Sustainable and Socially Responsible Sourcing awards) winners during gala dinner at the City Executive Conference Center at 601 Lexington Ave. in New York City on October 22, 2012. “The winners are considered outstanding examples of viable impact sourcing models, and constitute a working template for assisting others globally in creating a scalable impact sourcing business model,” said Angeline Judex, Executive Director, GSC 3S Awards.

The GSC 3S Awards program (www.gsc3sawards.com) honors best sustainable and socially responsible practices in global sourcing, as implemented by companies, NGOs and individuals in support of global sustainable development, corporate social responsibility, ethical and ecological sourcing practices and the empowerment of local communities that are part of the global supply chain. It is the only awards program geared specifically towards the global sourcing sector. The GSC 3S Awards program was conceived by the Global Sourcing Council, a non-profit organization that honors and celebrates 3S practices exercised by the global sourcing community.

The 2012 winners will participate in the **3S Awards Boot Camp**, which will consist of participation in top-level industry gatherings such as the 4-day *BSR Conference* in New York City, where they can be coached by executives from global corporations. Two representatives of Digital Divide Data, winner of the 3S People's Choice Award, will participate in the prestigious *Vested Outsourcing Course* at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville's Center for Executive Education. The 3S Boot Camp will end in June 2013 at the *World BPO Forum* in New York City.

“It takes a village of like-minded individuals to grow and scale the socially responsible enterprise that produces profit with purpose,” said dr. Wanda Lopuch, Chair of 3S Awards. “Our goal is to provide the winners of 3S Awards with skills and contacts that will empower them to take their winning programs to the next level.”

The 2012 GSC 3S Awards Winners are:

Community Engagement Award: Alter Eco (www.alterecofoods.com)

Alter Eco Americas promotes a form of global commerce where priority is given to working with marginalized farmers to build trade relations based on solidarity and sustainability. “Alter Eco is honored to be selected for the Community Engagement Award from 3S. The recognition from this award underscores and bolsters our

commitment to the Direct Trade model of commerce as a solution for alleviating global poverty and empowering farmers worldwide,” said Jeanne Cloutier, Director of Operations at Alter Eco.

(Award presented by **Dan Greene, Director/Head of Citi Commercial Bank NYC Division**)

Employee Engagement Award: VOS (www.vosflips.com)

VOS is an eco-friendly shoemaker brand that gives back to the local communities in South America. “Winning the 3S Award will support our ongoing efforts to empower the employees in our global supply chain towards 3S actions and will substantiate our commitment to the United Nations Global Compact program,” said Jose Alejandro Flores, founder of VOS.

(Award presented by **Dr. Zia Khan, Vice President for Strategy and Evaluation, Rockefeller Foundation**)

Empowered Woman Award: **HarVa** (www.harva.co.in)

HarVa means Green for the villages and stands for “Harnessing Value” of rural India. The company is a rural start-up that focuses primarily on Skill Development, BPO, Community based farming and Microfinance. “We believe our principles echo with the 3S business practices which is unique in its approach and need to be embraced globally. Being recognized by GSC gives us a platform to learn and collaborate with objectively driven Impact Sourcing organizations and individuals that achieve sustainability in the real sense,” said Ajay Chaturvedi, Chairman at HarVa.

(Award presented by **Venu Palaparthi, Vice President and CCO, Transactions Services U.S., The NASDAQ OMX Group**)

Out-of-the-Box Award: **prAna** (www.pрана.com)

prAna is a fair trade apparel maker, one of the first ones in the United States. The company is always looking for new ways to fold the intention of sustainability into their materials and practices, working to reduce the impact on soils, water supplies and other natural resources. “Winning the 3S Award would be a great honor for all of the hard work that everyone at prAna, our customers, and the workers in the Fair Trade factories as well as the Fair Trade cotton farmers have done to create a new business model that benefits all involved,” said Nicole Bassett, prAna’s Sustainability Director.

(Award presented by **Randy Lewis, Senior Vice President – Supply Chain and Logistics Walgreens**)

People's Choice Award – **Digital Divide Data**

Digital Divide Data's (DDD) creates better futures for disadvantaged youth in developing countries through employment in business process outsourcing (BPO). “For a young person born in poverty, a first job and the opportunity to go to college means the chance to break a heinous cycle and create a better future for themselves, their siblings and their own children,” said Michael Chertok, Co-founder and Chief Development Officer at Digital Divide Data. “Being recognized with the 3S Award will enable Digital Divide Data to create this opportunity for thousands more young men and women--and help us inspire others to use the Impact Sourcing model to build bridges to opportunity in the global economy for hundreds of thousands more.”

(Award presented by **Jeff Puritt, President, Telus International**)

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The **Global Sourcing Council** is a non-profit organization with an educational mission to promote an exchange of ideas and information among businesses, trade organizations, government agencies, non-profit organizations, and academia; to discuss and define sustainable and responsible practices in global sourcing and supply chain management; and to encourage progressive economic growth leading to increased trade, investment and social good, all with an aim to increase knowledge, deepen trade relations and broaden commercial and cultural ties among nations. - www.gscouncil.org