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16TH ANNUAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Las Vegas, NV..... The Nevada Minority Supplier Development Council (NVMSDC) celebrated its **16th Annual Excellence Awards**, themed “**Celebrating 16 years of Sweet Success**” at Caesar’s Palace Hotel in Las Vegas. Like each April, the event, which highlights the accomplishments of Minority Business Enterprises and Major Corporations in the State of Nevada that have excelled in programs, products and/or services the previous calendar year, was full of excitement, entertainment and lots of surprises.

Opening the show emceed by KVVU- Fox 5 Reporter/Producer, **Maria Silva** and the legendary Sport Celebrity, **Herschel Walker**, where the great performance of **Nova Jazz** captured the attention of the audience during the silent auction with his versatile and powerful performance, meanwhile the groups of **Ballet Folklorico Sol and Mexico Vivo Dance Company** with their unique talent of dance and music set the mood for the rest of the evening.

Inducted into the **2011 Minority Business Hall of Fame**, were **Sheldon G. Adelson, Chairman of the Board and CEO of Las Vegas Sands Corporation**, **Andy Abboud, Vice President of Government Relations and Community Development for LVS**, **Norbert Riezler, Head of Global Procurement & Supply Chain of LVS and Napoleon McCallum, Director of Community Development for LVS**, a leading global developer of destination properties that feature premium accommodations, world – class gaming, entertainment, convention and exhibit facilities, celebrity chef restaurants and many other amenities and **Manuel “T” and Amador “Chi –Chi” Bengochea, owners of Bentar Development Inc.**; a full service commercial general contracting, design/build project company based in Las Vegas.

The 2011 Excellence Award winners in the Minority Business category were:
New Minority Business of the Year, **Advanced Pro Remediation**; Contractor of the Year, **Horizon West- Coast, LLC** Professional Service Business of the Year, **Renu Oil of America** ; and the Minority Business of the Year was presented to **National Insurance Consultants, Inc.**

Corporate honors were bestowed upon: **Teresa Collins**, of Las Vegas valley Water District as the Buyer/Purchasing Agent of the Year; **Penny Marchell** of Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority as the Community Relations Specialist of the Year; **NV Energy** was presented with the award for the Supplier Diversity Program of the Year; and **Southwest Gas Corporation** took the top honor of the night as the Corporation of the Year.

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The final surprise of the evening was made by **Dianne Fontes**, President & CEO of Nevada Minority Supplier Development Council, when she presented the Advocate of the Year Award Traditionally given to a corporate or community person that has consistently supported minority business development throughout the entire community—to **Hannah Brown, President Emeritus Urban Chamber of Commerce**. For many years Clark County has been playing a key role in educating minority and small business and providing these businesses the best bid opportunities available.

The Nevada Minority Supplier Development Council is a not-for-profit organization and affiliate of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC) that Represents the interests of more than 300 certified minority businesses and over 80 major corporations throughout the State of Nevada that has generated over \$110 billion dollars in business since its inception.

For more information about NVMSDC, call (894-7794) or visit our Web site at www.nvmsdc.org.

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