



WOMEN PRESIDENTS'
Educational Organization.

For Immediate Release

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WPEO REVEALS WINNERS OF 2015 DONE DEALS™

Honors Achievement by Certified Women Business Enterprises and Corporate Members That Completed Contracts This Year

NEW YORK, NY (October 2, 2015) -- The winners of the 2015 Done Deals™ Challenge, representing contracts completed between certified Women Business Enterprises (WBEs) and corporate members in the New York region, were announced today at the Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO) fourteenth annual Breakthrough Breakfast.

Contracts representing \$403 million in combined value were completed during this challenge period, April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015. While exact figures are confidential, several corporate members spent in excess of \$100 million.

Obtaining Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) certification, the most widely-recognized and respected third-party accreditation, can open up business opportunities previously inaccessible to U.S. women-owned businesses. WPEO corporate members find enormous value in having direct access to businesses that meet the rigorous certification standards – a guarantee that the business is owned and controlled by women.

“We are impressed with the increased investment and commitment WPEO corporate members have made in doing business with certified WBEs,” said Dr. Marsha Firestone, WPEO President and Founder. “The Done Deals™ Challenge enables us to validate the impact that WPEO has had on increasing business opportunities and contracting activity,” she said.

The 2015 Done Deals Award Winners are:

- **Corporate Opportunity Awards – New York Life Insurance Company and Time Warner Inc.**
 - Corporate members that submit the most Done Deals™ with WPEO-certified WBEs.
- **Corporate Champion Award – AT&T**
 - Corporate member that reports the highest cumulative value of Done Deals™ with WBEs.
- **WBE Connection Award – Daystar Promotions, Inc.**
 - WBE that reports the most Done Deals™ with other WPEO-certified WBEs.

- **WBE Done Deals Champion Award – Corporate Diversity Solutions**
 - WPEO-certified WBE that reports the largest number of Done Deals™ with WPEO Corporate Members.
- **Access New York City Award – CorAnet Corp.**
 - WPEO-certified WBE that submits the most Done Deals™ with the City of New York.
- **Access New York State Award – Copy Graphics**
 - WPEO-certified WBE that submits the most Done Deals™ with the State of New York.
- **Access New Jersey Award – Copy Graphics**
 - WPEO-certified WBE that submits the most Done Deals™ with the State of New Jersey.

WPEO Board Chair Eliseo Rojas, Vice President and Chief Procurement Officer, The Interpublic Group, said “The theme this year is about the return on relationships. We’ve heard about return on investment. Return on relationships represents value that will accrue over time, as the currency of commerce. We need to honor and invest in relationships to achieve business goals in a competitive marketplace.”

In addition to the awards presentation, the Breakthrough Breakfast includes a networking reception, mini-trade fair and matchmaking meetings. The event offers a unique opportunity for WBEs to connect with one another and gain access to WPEO corporate members.

This year’s Corporate Lead Sponsors include: Avis Budget Group, Guggenheim Partners, Interpublic Group, Pfizer Inc. and Wells Fargo. WBE Lead Sponsors include: Atlas, CorAnet, Hudson Court Reporting, Technology Concepts Group International, Superior Group, Meadows Office Interior and CSS Building Services. The print sponsor is HighRoad Press LLC and the design sponsor is the STUDIO.

About The Women Presidents’ Educational Organization:

The Women Presidents' Educational Organization (WPEO) is a regional affiliate of the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation's premier third-party certification organization for women-owned businesses. The mission of the WPEO is to create increased access to business opportunities for WBEs. Its programs develop skills and knowledge for WBEs, advocate in the public and private sectors, foster relationships between WBEs, corporations and the government, and provide certification services.

WPEO provides full service third-party certification to women entrepreneurs in the New York, Northern New Jersey, Southern Connecticut and the Washington, DC, Maryland, and Virginia areas. WPEO is incorporated in the state of New York and is recognized as a 501(c) (3) organization. For more information please visit www.wpeo.us. Follow us on Twitter ([@wpeonydc](https://twitter.com/wpeonydc)); like us on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/wpeonydc).

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