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## **MCLANE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES ATTAINS GOLD CERTIFIED PARTNER STATUS IN MICROSOFT PARTNER PROGRAM**

**McLane Advanced Technologies Further Distinguishes Itself by Earning a Microsoft Competency in Advanced Infrastructure Solutions, Networking Infrastructure Solutions, and Information Worker Solutions**

**TEMPLE, TEXAS.**

McLane Advanced Technologies, LLC (MAT) today announced it has attained Gold Certified status in the Microsoft Partner Program with a competency in Advanced Infrastructure Solutions, Networking Infrastructure Solutions, and Information Worker Solutions, recognizing MAT's expertise and total impact in the technology marketplace. As a Gold Certified partner, MAT has demonstrated expertise with Microsoft technologies and proven ability to meet customers' needs. Microsoft Gold Certified Partners receive a rich set of benefits, including access, training and support, giving them a competitive advantage in the marketplace.

"We are extremely excited to have been recognized as a Gold Certified Partner by Microsoft. Gold Certified Partners represent the top tier of partners in the Microsoft Certified Partners Program. This recognition clearly promotes our expertise and relationship with Microsoft," said Bob Reeves, President of McLane Advanced Technologies.

"Customers are looking for partner companies that can bridge the gap between their business demands and technology capabilities. They need to trust in someone that can act as an expert adviser for their long-term strategic technology plans. Microsoft Gold Certified Partners, which have certified expertise and direct training and support from Microsoft, can build a positive customer experience with our technologies," said Allison Watson, Vice President of the Worldwide Partner Sales and Marketing Group at Microsoft Corp. "Today, Microsoft recognizes McLane Advanced Technologies as a new Microsoft Gold Certified Partner for demonstrating its expertise in providing customer satisfaction with Microsoft products and technology."

As one of the requirements for attaining Gold Certified Status, MAT had to declare a Microsoft Competency. Microsoft Competencies are designed to help differentiate a partner's capabilities with specific Microsoft technologies to customers looking for a particular type of solution. Each competency has a unique set of requirements and benefits, formulated to accurately represent the specific skills and services that partners bring to the technology industry.

The Microsoft Partner Program was launched in December 2003 and represents Microsoft's ongoing commitment to the success of partners worldwide. The program offers a single, integrated partnering framework that recognizes partner expertise, rewards the total impact that partners have in the technology marketplace, and delivers more value to help partners' businesses be successful.

The Microsoft Gold Certified Partner status will help MAT in both their government and commercial divisions. "Within the Central Texas corridor – from Round Rock to Hillsboro, there are only 3 companies that have achieved Gold Certified Partner Status that support the small and medium business community in this area. We are pleased to be among this elite group and to have done so in so short a timeframe. As a technology partner, no company is better equipped to handle the needs of businesses in Central Texas than McLane Advanced Technologies" said Skip Carruth, MAT's Vice President for Commercial Services.

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