

EXETER, RI, February 20, 2014 **/24-7PressRelease/** -- Carousel Industries, a leader in mobility, data networking and converged communications, announced it has earned the Microsoft Communications Gold Competency for the second year in a row, demonstrating its deep subject matter expertise in Microsoft communications and collaboration solutions, as well as its continued commitment to investment in a Microsoft-related communications practice.

To earn a Microsoft Communications Gold Competency, Microsoft partners must complete a set of rigorous examinations to prove best-in-class technical expertise, submit customer references and attain exemplary customer satisfaction scores. Gold status, which represents the pinnacle of Microsoft Communications Competency, is held by a relatively small number of Microsoft partners around the world.

Focus on performance, growth and diversity:

During 2013, Carousel increased its Microsoft related sales by over 200 percent. The vast majority of this increase was represented by Microsoft Lync offerings, which accounted for over 90 percent of Microsoft related sales. In addition to maintaining credentials for Microsoft Gold Competency, Carousel also expanded its team of Microsoft certified professionals and its overall services capabilities.

"Carousel's commitment to Microsoft continues to be represented by our attaining the most current accreditation for 2014," said Ed Wadbrook, vice president, applications/collaboration solutions, Carousel Industries. "Carousel is a vendor agnostic systems integrator with a broad reach across Microsoft's partner ecosystem, which includes manufacturers like Avaya, Polycom, Oracle, Sennheiser, Aruba and many others. Since Carousel is vendor agnostic, we are able to present the most valuable and suitable options for our customers for just about any given integration scenario. This makes our Microsoft related value proposition more versatile and compelling than our competitors and gives us a distinct advantage in winning new business."

The Microsoft Communications Gold Competency indicates that Carousel has integrated Microsoft communications solutions -- such as Microsoft Lync -- as part of its core business portfolio and that it has invested a significant amount in related talent and support. Unified communications training and expertise continues to play a vital role in Carousel's ongoing success in designing and deploying both single-vendor and multi-vendor solutions for its customers.

Carousel is currently working on deploying a new managed services offering during 2014 that will align with Microsoft's Premier Services program. The solution is being architected for Microsoft Lync customers, and will include services such as real-time monitoring and help desk related operations.

About Carousel:

Carousel Industries consults, integrates, and manages technology solutions that solve business problems and contribute to your organizations' growth. This includes unified communications, managed services, virtualization, Voice over IP (VoIP), video conferencing and collaboration and data infrastructure solutions.

Today we have over 6,000 customers, including 35 of the Fortune 100. Carousel has been recognized by both VAR and CRN Magazines as one of the top technology integrators in the US and we've been listed in the Inc. 500/5000 seven times. Carousel is headquartered in Exeter, RI, with over 1,000 employees working from offices in 30 locations across the US, including over 250 service technicians deployed across the country. For more information visit: <http://www.carouselindustries.com>.