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## THE TOWER COMPANIES RECEIVES 'FIRM OF THE YEAR' AWARD AT THE NAIOP DC I MD CHAPTER'S 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE GALA

Rockville, MD (October 18, 2016) – The Tower Companies announced today that they were the honored recipient of “Firm of the Year” awarded by NAIOP’s DC I MD Chapter at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards of Excellence Gala on October 13, 2016, in Washington D.C. The prestigious award commends excellence and professional leadership within the industry as well as service to the local economy and community organizations. The Tower Companies was selected based on outstanding contributions in these areas, as well as, continued support of the efforts of the NAIOP DC I MD Chapter.

“It is truly an honor to be recognized as ‘Firm of the Year’ by NAIOP’s DC I MD Chapter,” said Sri Velamati, chief operating officer at The Tower Companies. “Our team and partners continually advance our company’s mission of sustainability and responsibility in day to day operations. This award serves as a reflection of the innovative and hard work we strive to achieve.”

The Tower Companies (Tower) is committed to improving the real estate industry by demonstrating forward thinking, challenging vendors and educating colleagues about real estate’s transformative potential. With this goal in mind, the Tower Team had a pinnacle year for achievements, especially within the office portfolio. In April 2016, The Millennium Building, located at 1909 K Street, won the [“Regional TOBY Award” in the Earth Building Category](#) for the team’s above and beyond commitment to sustainability and all facets of property management. Tower also achieved two significant LEED recertifications in 2016. Office building, 1828 L Street, received [LEED Gold recertification under LEED O+M Existing Buildings v4](#), making it the first office building in the world to achieve this recertification. Furthermore, Tower’s 1707 L Street office building was the largest office building in the National Capitol Region to be awarded [LEED recertification under the new LEED Dynamic Plaque](#).

Environmental responsibility is also deeply engrained in Tower’s commitment to improving the real estate industry by leading as an example and acting as a global voice on environmental stewardship and sharing sustainable practices. Since 2010, Tower can report that across its portfolio, leased at 95%, 34 million kWh of electricity have been conserved, 49 million gallons of water saved, 71,000 pounds of waste composted, and over 50% of waste has been diverted from landfills. In addition, a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions was achieved, which is equivalent to carbon sequestered by 33,000 acres of forest in one year, and 100% of energy consumption was offset with renewable energy and carbon credit purchases. Additionally, Tower educates the industry through presenting findings and publishing case studies regarding building upgrades and operational feats. In 2015-16, Tower published four case studies with industry partners exploring subjects such as water efficiency, plug load management, implementing solar and garage operating costs.

The company is also recognized for their contributions to local, national and global communities through job creation, employee satisfaction and volunteerism, and philanthropy. Tower plans to open the first luxury residential building of a thoughtfully designed [20-year Master Plan Development, The Pearl](#). The 284-unit residential building created over 300 construction jobs and will eventually be home to 500 new residents in Silver Spring. Tower continues to invest in the communities that they develop in as well. Since 2012, Tower has supported [USGBC’s Green Apple Day of Service](#). This year, the team volunteered over 500 hours with 100% employee participation, to provide awareness and education to students and staffing about green buildings.

To read more details about the company’s achievements, visit [towercompanies.com](http://towercompanies.com)

### **About The Tower Companies**

For three generations, the family-owned Tower Companies has maintained a commitment to responsible development and continues to envision a world where buildings inspire and enrich the lives of their occupants

and create positive social change. The sustainable building leader owns, develops, and manages over 5 million square feet in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area consisting of office buildings, office parks, lifestyle centers, regional malls, eco-progressive live-work-play communities and hotels, with an additional 8 million square feet in the development pipeline. In 2004, The Tower Companies was the first in the United States to certified LEED® a multi-family community, and since then, over 90 % of commercial and multi-family residential properties are LEED® and ENERGY STAR® certified. In addition, Tower publically reports GHG emissions to The Climate Registry and offsets 100% by purchasing renewable energy and carbon credits. Looking to the future, through a partnership with the Department of Energy, The Tower Companies has pledged to reduce energy and water consumption by 20% by 2020. The Tower Companies has been acknowledged as an international authority in the industry, and has been recognized for its commitment to sustainability and energy independence by numerous national organizations and federal agencies, including US Green Building Council, US Department of Energy (DOE) and the US Environmental Protection Agency and more.

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*The Tower Companies Team accepting 'Firm of the Year' award at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards of Excellence Gala.*

*(L-R: Kellyn Mahan, Senior Marketing Manager; Eugenia Gregorio, VP of Strategy and Sustainability; Chuck Wallach, VP of Leasing and Tenant Construction)*