

## **Azaleos Corporation Attains Gold Certified Partner Status in Microsoft Partner Program**

*Achievement by Messaging Solution Appliance Provider Adds to List of Partnerships  
with Leading IT Companies*

**Redmond, WA – January 17, 2005** – Azaleos Corporation, provider of messaging solution appliances built on the Microsoft technology platform, today announced that it has achieved Gold Certified status as a member of the Microsoft Partner Program. Azaleos achieved this mark of distinction, which represents the highest level of competence in Microsoft technologies, by demonstrating expertise in the specific competency areas of ISV/Software Solutions and Network Infrastructure.

“The success of our business directly correlates with the ability to provide our customers with the very best products and services in order to meet market demands,” said Roger Gerdes, chief executive officer of Azaleos. “As a Microsoft Gold Certified partner, current and future customers can feel even more confident in our OneServer for Exchange 2003 appliance and OneStop monitoring service solution – which is backed by certified expertise and training from Microsoft. Attaining this level of certification is just one of many steps we’ve taken to establish a leadership position in providing the very best Exchange 2003 solution in the market today and the very best Exchange 12 solutions in the near future.”

Microsoft Competencies are designed to help differentiate capabilities with specific Microsoft technologies. Each competency has a unique set of requirements, formulated to accurately represent the specific skills and services that partners bring to the technology industry. With a growing list of partnerships that already includes the likes of Dell and Hewlett-Packard, attaining Gold Certified Partner status is the latest achievement in Azaleos’ continuous efforts to partner with industry leading companies in order to provide the highest level of products and services to customers.

Every customer is looking for a specific solution based on their unique business needs. Companies that have benefited from Azaleos’ enhanced offerings as a Gold Certified Partner include Compass Health, a provider of behavioral health programs for children and adults; K2 Sports, manufacturer of sporting goods equipment and accessories; and Zumiez, Inc., specialty retailer of action sports related to apparel, footwear, equipment and accessories.

“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 Azaleos as a new Microsoft Gold

Certified Partner for demonstrating its expertise in providing customer satisfaction with Microsoft products and technology.”

Customers turn to Azaleos to meet their Exchange 2003 high availability needs, to minimize operational resource spending and to eliminate the e-mail infrastructure maintenance and management burden.

#### **About Azaleos Corporation**

Azaleos provides the only enterprise-class managed messaging solution combining an Exchange 2003 appliance with 24-7 remote maintenance, ensuring high reliability, availability and performance for your Exchange 2003 environment.

The Azaleos OneServer appliance and OneStop managed service offer unmatched uptime, proactive monitoring by Exchange experts, patch management, system fixes, and reporting. With Azaleos, your Exchange environment remains in *your* network and messaging *just works*, enabling your IT staff to focus on new initiatives that help you grow your business. A standardized, scalable solution, Azaleos messaging management can be installed and running in less than a day.

Redmond, WA-based Azaleos Corporation, founded by Exchange experts in 2004, is led by senior executives from leading technology companies such as Microsoft, IBM and Lotus.

For more information about Azaleos, please visit [www.azaleos.net](http://www.azaleos.net)

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