

Microsoft Selects Windward as Gold-Level ISV Partner

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Boulder, CO – Windward, the champion of easy-to-use reporting, document generation and business intelligence software, today announced it has been awarded Gold Independent Software Vendor (ISV) status in the Microsoft Partner program. The recognition reflects Windward's proficiency and global expertise in the enterprise reporting field.

Gold ISV Microsoft Partners must meet rigorous testing requirements and provide impressive customer references. Microsoft requires its gold partners to pass a competency test, and Windward surpassed the Windows 7 Logo criteria. In addition, Windward submitted several unique customer references from companies with a minimum of five employees, each using Windward solutions.

Windward is one of only 787 ISVs in the world to attain Microsoft's Gold Competency. Similar to Red Gate Software, Experian QAS, IBM, Barracuda Networks, and Citrix, Windward is part of the Microsoft Partner network.

"Our solutions have undergone thorough scrutiny of an independent third party, and we're proud of what we've demonstrated to Microsoft," said Shirley Clawson, Windward's CEO. "We're even prouder of what this indicates we offer our customers."

The certification reflects the fact that Windward customers will have direct access to Microsoft-certified software engineers who can help them work through any Microsoft issues that may arise when using Windward products. And because the Windward IT team is required to stay current with Microsoft development, the partnership guarantees continuity among Windward and Microsoft products.

"Microsoft is willing to stake part of its reputation on us being one of the top reporting, document generation and BI software suites," Clawson added. "We look forward to growing our alliance over the coming years."

By adding the Microsoft platform to the front end, Windward brings ease of use to report generation and report creation, benefiting end users as they can use Windward to design complicated reports in a familiar Word, Excel or PowerPoint interface. These reports can then be uploaded into the collaborative environment within Microsoft's SkyDrive and other cloud-based platforms.

While based on the philosophy of DIY made possible by Microsoft, Windward builds in even more flexibility by allowing reports to be generated in any programming language: .NET, Java, Ruby, Python, C#, among others.

About Windward

Windward offers business intelligence, enterprise reporting, document generation and Web-based business intelligence solutions. Launched in 2002, Windward is the only full-featured, robust Java and .NET engine to use Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint as a layout tool, putting template design and report and document generation power in the hands of the end user. Any Office user can easily and

securely create reports and documents with almost no learning curve. Additionally, OEMs and VARs use Windward's reporting component.

Windward works by merging any XML, SQL or custom data source—or any combination thereof—with a Microsoft Office report template. It feeds data into the template to create a what-you-see-is-what-you-get report or document that can be generated in DOCX, XLSX, PPTX, PDF, HTML, direct to printer, RTF, XLS, WordML, TXT, and CSV. Windward runs as a standalone application or in an enterprise computing environment. Also unique, Windward implements in hours, offers affordable server-based pricing, and offers “prompt, fantastic” technical support via a 24/7 support forum and support contracts. A free trial of Windward's products is available at www.windward.net.

The Windward user group spans 70 countries. User applications include financial statements, inventory reports, product-usage reports, purchase orders, invoices, training certificates, timesheets, and licenses. Other applications include reporting to meet requirements of Sarbanes-Oxley, Patriot Act, ARRA, HIPAA, Health Level Seven, Gramm-Leach-Bliley, Basel II, and other U.S. and international acts and accords affecting financial services, real estate, government, and insurance industries and the consultants and integrators serving them.

For Immediate Release

Press Contact: Annette Grotz

Marketing Manager

303-499-2544 x1191

annetteg@windward.net