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MEDIA RELEASE

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WATCO COMPANIES RECOGNIZED BY CIO MAGAZINE AS ONE OF THE CIO 100 AWARD WINNERS

Honorees receive award during CIO 100 Symposium & Awards Ceremony

Pittsburg, KS, July 1, 2014 — IDG's *CIO* magazine announced Watco Companies as a recipient of the 2014 CIO 100. The 27th annual award program recognizes organizations around the world that exemplify the highest level of operational and strategic excellence in information technology (IT).

"For 27 years now, the CIO 100 awards have honored the innovative use of technology to deliver genuine business value," said Maryfran Johnson, Editor in Chief of CIO Magazine & Events. "Our 2014 winners are an outstanding example of the transformative power of IT to drive everything from revenue growth to competitive advantage."

The company received the award based on the results of the WATSS project, which supports the wide variety of railroad-related services Watco provides. It effectively executes thousands of daily railcar movements while accurately recording marketing, finance, and billing data. The project was spearheaded by Cheryl Correll, Watco's Senior Vice President of Information Technology.

"The WATSS project and system exemplify Watco's Customer First Foundation Principles. Customer Satisfaction: WATSS development is tailored to exceed the requirements of internal and external Customers. Profitability: internally developed and managed service solution provides cost savings and the flexibility to meet the needs of a dynamic business model. Long-term: Watco controls its own destiny and can shape the future direction of the system," said Correll.

Correll and executives from the winning companies will be recognized at the CIO 100 Symposium & Awards Ceremony, to be held Aug. 19 at the Terranea Resort in Rancho Palos Verdes, California.

About the CIO 100

Recipients of this year's CIO 100 Award were selected through a three-step process. First, companies filled out an online application form detailing their innovative IT and business initiatives. Next, a team of external judges (many of them former CIOs) reviewed the applications in depth, looking for leading-edge IT practices and measurable results. Finally, *CIO* editors reviewed the judges' recommendations and selected the final 100. Coverage of the 2014 CIO 100 Awards will be available online at CIO.com on August 1, 2014 and in the August 1st issue of *CIO* magazine.



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About CIO:

CIO is the premier content and community resource for information technology executives and leaders thriving and prospering in this fast-paced era of IT transformation in the enterprise. The award-winning CIO portfolio-- CIO.com, *CIO* magazine (launched in 1987), CIO executive programs, CIO strategic marketing solutions, CIO Forum on LinkedIn, CIO Executive Council and CIO primary research—provides business technology leaders with analysis and insight on information technology trends and a keen understanding of IT's role in achieving business goals. Additionally, CIO provides opportunities for IT solution providers to reach this executive IT audience. The CIO Executive Council is a professional organization of CIOs created to serve as an unbiased and trusted peer advisory group. CIO is published by IDG Enterprise, a subsidiary of International Data Group (IDG), the world's leading media, events, and research company. Company information is available at www.idgenterprise.com.

About Watco Companies

Watco Companies, L.L.C., (Watco) is a Pittsburg, Kan., based transportation company providing transportation, mechanical, and transload/intermodal solutions for Customers throughout the nation. Watco is the owner of Watco Transportation Services, L.L.C., (WTS), one of the largest short line railroad holding companies in the U.S. with 30 short line railroads operating on more than 4,600 miles of track, as well as 27 industrial contract switching locations. Watco's Mechanical Services division operates 15 railcar repair shops, 4 locomotive shops and 19 mobile mechanical shops. The Terminal and Port Services division currently manages 20 transload facilities, 10 warehouses and 2 port locations. More information about Watco and its subsidiaries can be found at www.watcocompanies.com.