**Sony and Qualcomm Recognized As Two Leading San Diego Companies**

**That Develop and Enhance Talent Through Toastmasters**

**SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, USA, DECEMBER 11, 2015**—SONY AND QUALCOMM in SAN DIEGO were honored by Toastmasters International with its Corporate Recognition Award for corporate sponsorship of clubs that provide their employees with communication and leadership skills that build confidence to flourish in their jobs.

The two companies were awarded Toastmasters International Corporate Sponsorship Awards on October 14, 2015 and October 16, 2015 respectively. Presenting the awards was Lark Doley, Second Vice President of Toastmasters International. May-chen Martin-Kuo, Toastmasters District 5 Director, facilitated this award ceremonies. Accepting the award on behalf of Qualcomm was Rick Jimenez Vice President, Employee Communications at Qualcomm Incorporated. Accepting the award on behalf of Sony were Mike Fasulo, President & COO, Sony Electronics, Inc., Laura Ash, Sr. Vice-President Human Resources, and Tim Brison, Sr. Vice-President Consumer Service, CSO, REO.

”The effectiveness of Toastmasters’ educational program is evidenced by more than 6,000 organizations that sponsor in-house Toastmasters clubs as communication and leadership training for their employees” says Doley. “We appreciate Qualcomm for supporting its employees with an in-house club as well as offering its concert hall for district leadership events, and Sony for its in-house club as well as its tremendous investment in the Toastmasters Speechcraft program designed to teach the fundamentals of public speaking.”

Corporate Sponsors support the personal growth and professional development of members.

Toastmasters' communication and leadership teaches employees how to:

Conduct effective meetings

Practice time management

Enhance their listening skills

Sharpen their presentation skills

Boost team collaboration

Guide successful teams

In the age of texting, email and social media, strong communication skills remain highly prized by employers, which makes Toastmasters' experiential learning program all the more valuable; it helps employees become better speakers and leaders.

“District 5 Toastmasters is honored to have companies such as Sony and Qualcomm leading the way by advocating quality professional development” says Martin-Kuo. “We are fortunate that many companies support not only their employees but also residents in the community in achieving excellence in the areas of communication and leadership.”

**About Toastmasters District 5**

District 5 Toastmasters serves San Diego Imperial Counties, and Yuma, Arizona. There are over 3000 members in about 150 community and corporate clubs in District 5. Additional companies supporting their employees and their community by sponsoring clubs in the district include:

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| American Specialty Health | D & K Engineering | Kaiser Permanente  | San Diego Gas & Electric |
| AMN Healthcare  | FMT Consultants | Keller- Williams  | Sharp |
| ASI Hastings | General Atomics | Life Technologies | Solar Turbines |
| Auda Explore | Genomics Institute | LPL Financial  | Sony  |
| BAE Systems  | GreatCall, Inc.  | MedImpact Healthcare | SPAWAR |
| Balfour Beatty  | Helix Water  | Northrup Grumman | Sycuan Casino  |
| Broadcom Corporations | Hewlett Packard | Oracle | Symitar |
| Caltrans | HM Electronics | Otay Water District  | Take Lessons |
| CareFusion | HOLOGIC | Pratt & Whitney | UCSD |
| CBRE | IDA | Qualcomm | Union Bank  |
| Celgene | Illumina | Resmed | UTC Aerospace |
| Cubic | Intuit | Scripps | Vistage International  |
| Cymer | Jack in the Box | San Diego County of Education | Watkins Manufacturing  |
|  |  |  | Zimmer Dental  |

For information about the events in San Diego, please visit d5tm.org

**About Toastmasters International**

Toastmasters International is a nonprofit world leader in communication and leadership development. Headquartered in Rancho Santa Margarita, California, the organization’s membership exceeds 332,000 members. Members improve their speaking and leadership skills by attending one of the 15,400 clubs in 135 countries that make up our global network of meeting locations.

Since 1924, Toastmasters International has helped people of all backgrounds become more confident in front of an audience. For information about local Toastmasters clubs, please visit [www.toastmasters.org](http://www.toastmasters.org/). Follow [@Toastmasters](http://twitter.com/Toastmasters) on Twitter.