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For immediate release

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Sun Corridor planning group recognizes Raytheon Missile Systems as top exporter

The foresight to get out in front of its customers' changing needs led Raytheon Missile Systems to recently reinvent itself by developing new technologies and strategies that led to significant increases in the overall company exports.

International sales for Raytheon Company, which specializes in defense, civil government and cyber security solutions, grew by 5.6 percent in 2016 – the 13th consecutive year of international sales growth – to exceed 31 percent of the company's total 2016 net sales of \$24.1 billion.

For Raytheon Missile Systems' exporting achievements, the Joint Planning Advisory Council recognized the company today as an expert exporter and as the top scoring applicant from southern Arizona in JPAC's new Sun Corridor Export Recognition Program.

JPAC members include Pima Association of Governments (PAG), Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG), Central Arizona Governments and the Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization.

"Raytheon Missile Systems is a model company for our region and state," said PAG Regional Council Chair and Oro Valley Mayor Satish Hiremath. "The company has more than 14,000 employees, and exporting has helped the company to sustain and grow its employee base, providing high-paying jobs for many people across our region."

Tucson Mayor Rothschild, who is also a member of the PAG Regional Council, recognized Raytheon for its commitment to the region. "Raytheon has a strong history of supporting STEM education, veterans and military families," said Tucson Mayor Jonathan Rothschild. "We appreciate their many contributions to our community and congratulate them on receiving this recognition."

The two mayors presented Raytheon Missile Systems President Taylor Lawrence, Ph.D., with a certificate today to honor the company for its exporting achievements.

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“As a global company, Raytheon provides products and services to more than 50 countries worldwide; exporting is a key factor in our continued success,” said Dr. Taylor W. Lawrence, Raytheon Missile Systems president. “This recognition demonstrates the Joint Planning Advisory Council understands the importance of providing the right environment locally for our business and employees to continue growing globally.”

On May 19, 2017, a total of 17 businesses from across the state, including two others from southern Arizona, will be recognized at JPAC’s upcoming Economic Development for Global Economy (EDGE) event at Wild Horse Pass in Chandler.

JPAC launched the EDGE program to recognize businesses that are exporting and to encourage others to do the same regardless of company size. “Research demonstrates that 1 percent of businesses export goods or services,” Hiremath said. “Those that do export are more recession proof and successful. We do encourage businesses across our region to consider the opportunities exporting can provide to your business, from increased sales to job growth.”

More information about exporting resources is available at www.jpacaz.org

EDGE partners include: Arizona Commerce Authority, Arizona District Export Council, Central Arizona Governments, East Valley Partnership, Global Chamber Phoenix and Global Chamber Tucson, Greater Phoenix Economic Council, Maricopa Association of Governments, Metro Phoenix Export Alliance, Partnership for Economic Innovation, Pima Association of Governments, Sun Corridor Metropolitan Planning Organization, Sun Corridor Inc., U.S. Commercial Service, and Western Maricopa Coalition.

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