Welcome to the first WEConnect International Global Supplier Diversity and Inclusion Symposium!

On behalf of WEConnect International’s Board of Directors and Global Team, I want to thank our various speakers and panelists, partner organizations, and generous sponsors, including ambassador sponsor Chevron, for coming together to make this inaugural Symposium a success.

Supplier diversity and inclusion as a business strategy has been a staple of corporate procurement programs in the U.S. for decades, but relatively few corporations have built global programs. According to a recent Hackett Group survey, 75 percent of U.S.-based procurement organizations’ diversity programs are domestic only, but nearly 40 percent are planning to expand globally in the next two to three years. We must work together now to ensure we can meet this growing demand for underutilized suppliers.

Over the next two days, our expert speakers will provide you with firsthand experience on the tools and resources needed to successfully begin a global supplier diversity and inclusion journey, or to enhance current global efforts. With each panel and workshop, you will gain valuable insights from leading corporations and global supplier diversity and inclusion organizations.

By the conclusion of the Symposium, you will have the know-how to get started and WEConnect International will be there to help you achieve your goals, including finding the right women-owned businesses for your procurement needs.

Let’s change the world together!

Elizabeth A. Vazquez
CEO and Co-Founder,
WEConnect International
Livestreaming for the WEConnect International Symposium has been provided by Certified Women’s Business Enterprise:
ABOUT US

The only corporate-led initiative of its kind, WEConnect International works with buyers from multinational corporations and multilateral organizations that want to source from women’s business enterprises across the globe.

WEConnect International identifies and certifies growth-oriented women’s business enterprises ready to do business with large corporations and provides global platforms for its members to highlight their work in country. Through training and networking opportunities, WEConnect International sparks relationships, promotes economic growth, raises the profile of qualified women’s business enterprises, and helps strengthen its corporate members’ supplier diversity and inclusion programs.

WEConnect International operates on every continent in countries that together represent over half of the world’s population.

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WE AGREE.

Companies should reflect the communities they’re a part of. At Chevron, we support small, minority-, women- and LGBT-owned businesses where we operate. Working with qualified, knowledgeable local suppliers creates value for our business. And helps strengthen the local economy.

Learn more at chevron.com

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Make A Local Impact Globally

Tucked away into the quaint agricultural heartlands of Srirangapatna, rural Mysore District, Karnataka State, WEConnect International certified women’s business enterprise Nectar Fresh operates food factory championing the empowerment and employment of the rural population, farmers and tribal honey collectors. With the support of multinational retailing corporations, customers around the world can support woman business owner Chyaa Nanjappa and her entire community. All they have to do is look for the Certified Women Owned logo.

Your Business Can Make A Difference!
7:30 – 8:30 AM  Registration and Networking Breakfast

8:30 – 9:00 AM  WEImpact: Global Perspectives on Sourcing from Women-Owned Businesses
80% of global consumer purchasing is done by women, and women-owned business add needed competitive innovation for business growth. Incorporating women-owned businesses into global value chains makes good business and economic sense.
• Gain critical top line statistics and latest global analysis on why businesses are making massive global commitments to sourcing more from women-owned businesses
• Learn the key messages resonating with corporate executives, domestic and international government stakeholders, and global citizens on how best to invest in women-owned businesses
• Hear how the launch of the Women Owned Logo is driving consumer interest, can boost sales and positive product perception, and how to become a part of the global movement
Welcoming Speaker: Elizabeth A. Vazquez, WEConnect International Speakers: Pam Eason, WBENC; Jenny Grieser, Walmart; Adriana Rojas, Dipsa Snacks

9:00 – 9:45 AM  WEInspire: Global Impact of Supplier Diversity and Inclusion and its Role in the Sustainable Development Agenda from Multilateral Organizations
Global Supplier Diversity has the ability to directly impact the Sustainable Development Goals, from gender equality, reduced inequalities, and economic growth, to responsible consumption and production, industry innovation, and partnerships.
• Global companies are global citizens. Hear critical insights from leading multilateral organizations on how your supplier diversity efforts can drive global growth while generating positive business growth
• Learn how companies are directly and indirectly poised to move the needle upwards for people and planet, while also continuing to make a profit and what governments and development organizations are taking note of
Speakers: Helle Bank Jorgensen, UN Global Compact; Wade Channell, USAID
Moderator: Henriette Kolb, IFC
9:45 – 10:30 AM  **WEIgnite: Corporate Perspectives on Challenges and Progress in Global Supplier Diversity and Inclusion and Linkages to Corporate Goals**
Domestic Supplier Diversity and Inclusion initiatives are often robust; however, going global can be challenging, as well as exponentially rewarding.
- Get key insights to assist in building a unique business case for an effective global supplier diversity and inclusion plan
- Gain valuable acumen from corporate experts on how to address challenges in global supplier diversity initiatives
- Obtain key tips to ensure progress and success for expanding global efforts
Speakers: Theresa Harrison, EY; Natalie Stirling-Sanders, ExxonMobil
Moderator: Jill Houghton, USBLN

10:30 – 10:45 AM  **Coffee and Networking Break**

10:45 – 11:30 AM  **Aligning Supplier Diversity and Inclusion Strategies with Global Corporate Relations, CSR and Sustainability**
Developing long-term sustainable growth opportunities in global markets requires companies to ensure that innovation, sustainability, and brand visibility and awareness are in sync with more efficient corporate processes. When aligned, global supplier diversity and inclusion efforts can be an enormous value add to corporate-wide strategic efforts.
- Learn how other companies’ teams have successfully collaborated on corporate strategic initiatives and how you can apply the same techniques to ensure broader success
- Gain critical tips and insights on how to best develop internal and external materials to gain support from diverse divisions
Speakers: Andy Butler, Procter & Gamble; Nedra Dickson, Accenture; Denise Naguib, Marriott International
Moderator: Ronnie Tham, Walmart

11:30 – 12:15 PM  **Building a Strong Business Case to Obtain Senior Leadership Support and Resources**
Senior Leadership Buy-in is key to successfully growing global supplier diversity and inclusion efforts, obtaining support across global operations, and securing the necessary resources to effectively implement processes across corporate divisions
Gain core tips on where to start, best practices in building internal and external teams and support, the impact of internal and external research, setting targets, and linking it to your ROI to secure broader leadership support.

- Change Champions share their insider knowledge on how they pushed support for supplier diversity and inclusion to the next level.

**Speakers:** Mark Baxa, Monsanto Company; Darlene Fuller, Sodexo; Meg Stowe, Intel

**Moderator:** Estrella Cramer, UPS

**12:15 – 1:30 PM**  
**Lunch**

**1:30 – 2:00 PM**  
**Best Practices in Global Initiatives Benchmarking**

Knowing where your company stands in current supplier diversity and inclusion efforts is key to building out successful future goals. Ralph Moore, with RGMA, is an expert on benchmarking supplier diversity best practices and will provide leading industry expertise on how to establish clear and measurable benchmarking methodologies that are effective and efficient.

- Learn how to set core global benchmarks that enable you to grow global supplier diversity and inclusion efforts
- Gain insights on how to leverage benchmarks against other Fortune 500 companies as well as industry leaders

**Speaker:** Ralph G. Moore, RGMA

**2:00 – 2:45 PM**  
**Best Practices in Global Tracking and Reporting**

Tracking global initiatives is key in expanding efforts and securing greater buy-in and support; however, tracking and reporting efforts vary widely by company and can be challenging.

- Learn what data successful companies track, and how they track, analyze and report it
- Get first-hand tips on pitfalls to avoid and practices to implement that ensure higher quality data with limited time and resources

**Speakers:** Jenny Grieser, Walmart; Beverly Jennings, Johnson & Johnson; Denise Naguib, Marriott International

**Moderator:** Moreen Romans, Dun & Bradstreet
2:45 – 3:15 PM Dessert and Coffee Networking Break

3:15 – 4:00 PM Leveraging Globally-focused NGOs to Build Efforts that Expand Supplier Diversity and Inclusion, Sustainability, Corporate Relations, and CSR Efforts

Working closely with global non-profits enables companies to expand global corporate efforts especially when resources are limited

- Gain insights on how diversity and inclusion across all demographics is growing in demand as a core component of innovation, competitive edge, and consumer engagement and how diverse organizations and companies are collaborating to achieve future goals
- Learn how to partner with an organization to meet strategic goals and best practices in building sustainable relationships that deliver impact and ROI

Speakers: Michael Castellano, NGLCC; Cassandra Dorrington, CAMSC; Elizabeth A. Vazquez, WEConnect International
Moderator: Lee Lewis, Enterprise

4:00 – 4:20 PM Key Lessons from Developing a Global Supplier Diversity and Inclusion Strategy

IBM’s Program Director, Global Supplier Diversity, will share his lessons learned while leading his company’s program.
Speaker: Michael K. Robinson, IBM

4:20 – 4:30 PM Recap and Highlights of the Day

Review of the day’s top lessons and highlighting next steps
Speaker: Elizabeth A. Vazquez, WEConnect International

Please join us at the National Press Club for the WEConnect International Gala!
6 – 11 PM
529 14th St. NW
Washington, DC 200145
WESTRATEGIZE WORKSHOPS

7:00 – 8:00 AM  Networking Breakfast

8:00 – 10:00 AM  Workshop: Developing a Strategic Global Supplier Diversity and Inclusion Plan including Obtaining Buy-in, Identifying Resources, and Budget
Participants in this workshop will have the opportunity to work directly with leading experts on global supplier diversity and inclusion. Participants will draft a strategy to either launch or expand a successful global supplier diversity plan.
Facilitator: Michael K. Robinson, IBM

10:00 – 10:15 AM  Networking Break

10:15 – 11:45 AM  Workshop: Developing an Effective Global Tier II Program
Participants will learn how to successfully develop or grow a global tier II program with guidance from experienced supplier diversity and inclusion professionals.
Facilitators: Meg Stowe, Intel and Joan Kerr, PG&E

11:45 – 12:30 PM  Networking Lunch and Close

Thank you for joining us!
WEConnect International invites you to kick off the WBENC National Conference and Business Fair with international delegations of women business owners, corporate members, and government officials for an event dedicated to empowering women entrepreneurs and educating about the benefits of global supplier diversity and inclusion. Our hallmark International Day event will be held on Monday, June 19, and we will host workshops throughout the week.

DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES
SOLVE BIG CHALLENGES

Supplier Diversity at Monsanto

Monsanto values an environment that is rich in inclusion and diversity.

As we work to develop a broad range of sustainable agriculture solutions for farmers, our focus is to provide access to business opportunities with diversity suppliers.

Register at www.monsanto.com/procurement
Learn more at discover.monsanto.com
SPEAKERS

Helle Bank Jorgensen
President,
Global Compact Network Canada
CEO,
B.Accountability

Appointed as the UN Special Advisor to the Global Compact in 2013, Helle heads Global Compact Network Canada (GCNC), Canada’s network for responsible businesses and organizations. Her company, B.Accountability, is a WEConnect International certified women’s business enterprise.

Helle brings over 25 years of experience advising leading global companies, investors, and governmental and non-governmental institutions, such as IKEA, Shell, Monsanto, the Danish Government and the EU on strategy and reporting. She has also advised many companies, as well as the IFC, the World Bank Group, and SIDA on Responsible Global Supply Chains. She was the creator of the world’s first Green Account and later the world’s first Integrated Report.

Helle serves at HRH Prince of Wales A4S Expert Panel and is the Chair of eRevalue. She has authored several books, penned numerous articles and is a recognized speaker at events. She holds a degree as Business Lawyer, Master of Science in Business Administration and Auditing, and is a State Authorized Public Accountant.

Mark Baxa
VP, Global Procurement Strategic Sourcing & SRM,
Monsanto Company

With decades of experience, Mark Baxa is a Supply Chain executive passionate about driving value-added results, creating global synergy and building leaders. Presently, he leads global teams driving innovative, collaborative approaches where procurement is an enabler of Monsanto’s capacity to do great things for society. He is accountable for delivering excellence in Global Supplier Relationship Management (SRM), Strategic Sourcing, Training & Development, Supplier Sustainability and Supplier Diversity worldwide and leads the Global Supply Chain collegiate talent pipeline and procurement communications strategy.

Mark serves as Officer and 1st Vice President for the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals Global Board of Directors. He also serves as member of the Saint Louis University Council for Supply Chain Management Studies Steering Committee. He is a Charter Member and Incorporator of the St. Louis Trade Compliance Practitioners Roundtable and served on the St. Louis City / Lambert International Shippers Council. He is active in church leadership.
Andy Butler
Associate Director, Supplier Diversity, Sustainability and Innovation
Procter & Gamble

Andy Butler was promoted to Associate Director of Supplier Diversity, Sustainability and Innovation at the Procter & Gamble Company in 2016. Since 2006, he has held numerous positions at the company, including Corporate Supplier Diversity Manager, Purchases Group Manager for Global External Supply Solutions and Senior Purchasing Manager for Global Packaging Purchases. He is also a part of the P&G Asian-Pacific American Purchases Leadership Team.

Andy currently serves on the boards of the Ohio Minority Supplier Development Council (OMSDC) and the Ohio River Valley Women’s Business Council. He also chairs the OMSDC Cincinnati Local Advisory Council and is the District Chair of the Boys Scouts of America Dan Beard Council (Hopkins District). Andy earned his MBA at Xavier University and holds a BS in Economics from Carnegie Mellon University.

Michael Castellano
Director, NGLCC Global National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC)

Michael leads the NGLCC’s international initiatives, focusing primarily on public-private partnerships with the U.S. Agency for International Development and corporate partners under the LGBT Global Development Partnership. In his role, he works to increase the capacity of LGBT-owned businesses and launch affiliate LGBT chambers of commerce and business organizations throughout the world. Michael works closely with counterparts to expand the reach of the NGLCC’s International LGBT Supplier Registration program and to build strong relationships with international LGBT community leaders.

Prior to joining the NGLCC, Michael contributed to a project management team for a leading international development firm. While attending graduate school, he also worked in the Consular Affairs division of the U.S. Department of State. He earned his MA in International Affairs from the George Washington University and his BA in International Relations with a minor in Hispanic Studies from the College of William and Mary.

Wade Channell, J.D.
Senior Economic Growth Advisor for Gender, Office of Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

During his 23 years in international development, Wade Channell has focused extensively on the enabling environment for business and growth, recently turning his attention primarily to issues of women’s economic empowerment. He concentrates on the intersection of gender, law, and development, designing and managing work aimed at tearing down the walls to women’s
participation in the economy and building bridges to greater opportunity. He currently leads an effort for USAID to establish a framework for promoting women’s economic empowerment and equality. A lawyer by training, he deals extensively with economic constraints to gender equality, especially those resulting from inappropriate laws and regulations.

Wade has worked on five continents, in more than 50 countries, and has lived in Brazil, Guinea-Bissau, Croatia (where he was president of the American Chamber of Commerce), and Belgium. He also teaches in the business and policy schools of George Washington University.

**Estrella Cramer**  
**Corporate Supplier Diversity Director**  
**UPS**

Estrella Cramer has more than 27 years of service across the different business units/functions in UPS including Finance, Procurement, Marketing, Product Development and Supply Chain. She was the Asia Pac Sarbanes Oxley Audit Coordinator for all UPS locations in Asia in 2004.

Estrella is the Chairperson of the UPS Asian Business Resource Group Community Connections Committee and serves on the boards and advisory councils of several organizations. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including GMSDC Advocate of the Year, DiversityPlus Magazine Top 25 Women in Power Impacting Diversity, Corporate Women of Achievement from YWCA, and Top 25 Most Influential Asian American in Georgia by Georgia Asian Times in 2016 alone. Estrella graduated Cum Laude from the University of St. Thomas in Manila, Philippines and pursued an MBA degree at Iona College, New York.

**Nedra Dickson**  
**Global Supplier Diversity and Sustainability Lead, Accenture**

Nedra is responsible for leading and promoting Accenture’s well-established efforts to maximize procurement opportunities with diverse businesses as suppliers and subcontractors within 16 countries. She has grown Accenture’s Diverse Supplier Development Program in the U.S., Canada, South Africa, and the UK and Ireland.

She holds several board seats within the Supplier Diversity Community; including: the Georgia Minority Supplier Diversity Council, the Canadian Aboriginal Supplier Development Council, the Supplier Diversity Leadership Council for The Conference Board, and the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council.

Nedra was recognized as one of Atlanta, Georgia’s Top 25 Women in their Female Success Factor Series. She was also honored in WE magazine – Women Enterprise honors America’s Top 100 Leaders in Corporate Supplier Diversity, and she was recognized as one of the Top 25 Women in Power Impacting Diversity. Nedra grew up in
Arkansas and holds an MBA from University of Southern California, a BS degree from Florida State University and BA degree from California State University, Northridge.

**Cassandra Dorrington**
*President & CEO*
Canadian Aboriginal and Minority Supplier Council – CAMSC

Cassandra Dorrington leads the charge of championing business relationships and economic growth of the Canadian supply chain through the inclusion of Aboriginal and Minority suppliers. During her tenure, she has been focused on the expansion of the CAMSC brand resulting in significant growth and impact in the Canadian marketplace.

Named one of Diversity Canada's Influential Women in Diversity and HR, Cassandra is a past member of the Toronto 2015 Diversity Advisory Council, and currently sits on the National Advisory Council for the Office of Small and Medium Enterprises. Active in the Nova Scotia marketplace as Chair for the Black Business Enterprise, she currently sits as a member for Dalhousie University Board of Governors.

An accountant by profession, Cassandra played an instrumental role in the unification of the accounting bodies across Canada, also serving as co-Chair for the inaugural CPA Canada Board. Cassandra’s community involvement has garnered her multiple awards, including the YWCA Woman of Distinction award for Community Service, a 2010 Women of Excellence award and a 2015 Distinguished Community Service Award.

**Darlene Fuller**
*Senior Director, Supplier Diversity*
Sodexo

Darlene Fuller’s role at Sodexo includes championing the company’s efforts to expand diversity efforts globally as committed through the Clinton Global Initiative to grow SME and women-owned spend within 40 countries by 2017.

Darlene began her career as a unit manager in the Health Care division of Saga, rising to food service director for hospitals and long term care facilities. She held sales positions as well as national and regional purchasing positions for Marriott International and Sodexo prior to establishing Sodexo’s supplier diversity department. She is a graduate of Penn State University with a BS in Foodservice and Hospitality.

Darlene serves as Sodexo’s Company Ambassador for the Women’s Foodservice Forum and is on the Board of Directors for Capital Region MSDC. She also serves as Co-Chair of the certification committees for U.S. Business Leadership Network and for Women President’s Executive Organization in addition to active involvement in other diverse organizations and in her local church.

**Jenny Grieser**
*Senior Director, Women’s Economic Empowerment*
Walmart

Jenny Grieser has been responsible for leading Walmart’s global Women’s Economic...
Empowerment Initiative since 2014. She and her team work to leverage Walmart’s business assets to increase economic mobility for women through training and purchase orders resulting in economic stability for families, a strong workforce for employers and thriving local economies. In January of 2017 Jenny and her team completed the five-year commitment to achieve Walmart’s publically stated goals to source over $20B in cost purchases with women-owned businesses for the U.S. Market; implement strategies for growth of women-owned businesses in Walmart’s International markets; train 1 million women in factories, farms and retail; and encourage diversity in the make-up of the teams that support Walmart.

Jenny joined Walmart at the beginning of 2006 as a Senior Buyer of Bedding, after more than 20 years working in merchandising and sourcing for a range of specialty and department store formats. She went on to become Director of Bath/Shower, and Senior Director Sourcing, Hardlines, Toys, Seasonal, and Stationery.

Theresa Harrison
Global Diversity & Inclusiveness Procurement Leader, EY
Theresa Harrison manages and oversees the EY supplier diversity initiative. In this role, which she has held since June of 2004, she is responsible for the design, development and implementation of diverse supplier policies, processes, and procedures. A recognized leader in the industry, she is a frequent public speaker and works to build awareness of the importance of supplier diversity both inside and outside of EY.

Theresa serves as Chair of the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council Board of Directors. She is an active Ambassador engaging prospective Corporate Members. Additionally, she has engineered significant improvements to the organization by developing its Recruitment Program and its Dashboard for success measurement.

Theresa serves on the Diversity Information Resources and AIDC Board of Directors and on the Supplier Diversity Advisory Board for NMSDC. She obtained her BS in Management from Emmanuel College and her MBA from Bentley University.

Jill Houghton
President and CEO
U.S. Business Leadership Network (USBLN)
Jill Houghton’s creative spirit and passionate approach to the inclusion of people with disabilities comes from her core and has guided her 25 years of diverse leadership experience at the federal, state and local levels working with business to advance the inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Prior to joining the USBLN, Jill served as the Executive Director of the Ticket to Work and Work Incentives Advisory Panel. She has testified before the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives on issues related
to businesses’ commitment to recruit, hire and retain employees with disabilities. She currently serves on the board of the U.S. International Council on Disabilities and the New York City Comptrollers Advisory Board Council on Economic Growth through Diversity and Inclusion. Additionally, she serves on the Boston University, Rehabilitation Research and Training Center on “Improving Employment Outcomes for Individuals with Psychiatric Disabilities” Knowledge Translation and Utilization Advisory Council.

**Bev Jennings**  
**Head of Global Supplier Diversity & Inclusion**  
**Johnson & Johnson**

Bev Jennings drives a growth strategy that benefits diverse and small businesses and Johnson & Johnson’s (J&J) business partners. She engages internal and external stakeholders to support this strategy while serving J&J’s businesses, health care customers and consumers.

Bev is a member of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee for the Women’s Business Enterprise National, serves as Marketing Committee Chair, the Women Presidents’ Educational Organization Board, is a member of the National Minority Supplier Development Council Global Link Committee and is Co-Chair of the Global Committee for The Billion Dollar Roundtable. Internally, she is an HONOR Leadership Award winner and Co-Chair of the J&J African American Leadership Council National Employee Resource Group.

Prior to J&J, Bev held leadership positions at Standard Meat Company, a Sara Lee Corporation company, and JC Penney Company. She holds a MBA in Industrial Management from the University of Dallas and a BS in Management from the University of West Florida. She is a Master Business Coach certified by the Fowler School of Business and Executive Coaching.

**Henriette Kolb**  
**Head of the Gender Secretariat**  
**International Finance Corporation (IFC)**

Henriette serves as an advocate for gender equality issues in the private sector and works with IFC’s clients to include both women and men as entrepreneurs, employees, consumers, community stakeholders and leaders.

Before joining IFC in September 2013, Henriette was CEO of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women. Earlier in her career, she was the UN representative in the Middle East Quartet team advising Tony Blair in Jerusalem. She also worked for the Office of the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process. She has held positions as governance advisor with the European Commission Delegation to Tanzania, the German Technical Cooperation Agency in Germany, and the Friedrich Ebert Foundation in Tanzania.

Henriette holds an MSc in Development Studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies in London and an MA from Freiburg University in Germany. She is a Bucerius and Hertie summer school alumna and a frequent
contributor to blogs hosted by the Council on Foreign Relations, Huffington Post and Business Fights Poverty.

Lee Lewis, Jr.
Global Supplier Diversity Manager
Enterprise Holdings
Lee Lewis, Jr.’s work includes responsibility for Enterprise Holdings’ global, corporate-wide supplier diversity programs and processes designed to increase the company’s involvement in the economic development of minority-owned, women-owned, disadvantaged business enterprises and other suppliers recognized as socially and/or economically disadvantaged. He also manages the organization’s data collection, enrichment, and reporting processes and related supplier relationships. He maintains certification as a Professional in Human Resources.

Lee has served on the boards of the Professional Organization of Women, the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, and the St. Charles Workforce Investment Board. He also served on a number of committees for the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis and currently serves on the board of the Father’s Support Center. Lee earned a Bachelor’s degree in business administration from Texas Southern University and a Master of Arts in Religion from Liberty University. He is an ordained minister of the O’Fallon Church of Christ, author of Words to the Beloved, and enjoys spending his free time with his wife and eight children.

Ralph G. Moore, CPA
Founder, RGMA
Ralph founder RGMA in 1979 where he has leveraged the skills he cultivated at Arthur Andersen & Co. to build one of America’s premier supplier diversity and minority business development consulting firms. He authored the RGMA Five Levels of Supplier Diversity, recognized as the gold standard for benchmarking supplier diversity initiatives. Over the past 25 years, Ralph has conducted over 100 seminars and workshops for the National Minority Supplier Development Council as well as seminars in South Africa, France, the UK and Canada resulting in RGMA training more supplier diversity professionals than any other firm worldwide.

Ralph is a member of the Procter & Gamble and Macy’s Supplier Diversity Advisory Councils and is a Special Advisor to APC Holdings, a minority certified private investment firm. Clients have included BP, Walmart, DuPont, The Walt Disney Corporation and Major League Baseball.

Ralph’s board service includes City Colleges of Chicago, University of Chicago Medicine, the Chicago History Museum and the Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality. Awards include the Ron Brown Award from the CMSDC and the NMSDC Leadership Award. Ralph was inducted into the Minority Business Hall of Fame in 2015.
Denise Naguib  
*Vice President, Sustainability and Supplier Diversity, Global Operations Services*  
*Marriott International*

Denise was born in Cairo, Egypt where she lived for half of her childhood before moving to the U.S. She attended the University of Oregon, earning a BS in Geography with an emphasis on biological and human impacts on the environment.

In 2005, Denise implemented the Jean-Michel Cousteau’s Ambassadors of the Environment program at The Ritz-Carlton, Grand Cayman, then went on to become Corporate Director, Environmental Programs for The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Company. In 2010, Denise joined the Global Operations group at Marriott International and continued her work on sustainability strategy for all brands. Denise was named Vice President of Sustainability and Supplier Diversity in 2012. She is working on resetting the company’s global sustainability goals, developing solutions for recycling and food waste in our hotels, and supporting efforts to increase spend with diverse businesses globally.

Denise is the Vice Chair of the Global Business Travel Association’s Sustainability Committee, and the Chair of The Conference Board’s Sustainability Council: Innovation and Growth.

Pamela Prince-Eason  
*President & CEO*  
*Women’s Business Enterprise National Council*

Pamela Prince-Eason is the President and CEO of the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC).

She assumed the role in 2011 after holding the position of Vice President of worldwide Procurement for Pfizer Inc. In 2014 Pamela was appointed to the National Women’s Business Council (NWBC), a non-partisan federal advisory council who advises the President, Congress, and the U.S. Small Business Administration on economic issues of importance to women business owners.

Pamela’s dedication to women’s business leadership is illustrated in her many professional and personal roles advancing women’s excellence and opportunity.

She serves on the advisory committees of several Corporations including the Ernst & Young Entrepreneurial Winning Women Program, the Dell Women’s Entrepreneur Network, Walmart’s Women Owned Business Advisory Council, Shell Diversity & Inclusion Collaboration Partners, Macy’s Supplier Diversity Advisory Council, as well as the Coca-Cola Company’s 5by20 initiative.
Michael K. Robinson  
*Transformation and Operations*  
*Global Procurement, Program Director*  
*Supplier Diversity and Supplier Connection Program Director, Global Supplier Diversity*  
*IBM*

In his current role, Michael K. Robinson focuses on the utilization, development and mentoring of diverse suppliers who can provide value-add to IBM’s Supply Chain. He and his team are also responsible for IBM’s Supplier Connection initiative which provides small businesses access to large corporations.

Under Michael’s leadership, IBM has been recognized for numerous awards including Corporation of the Year by the NMSDC, one of the Top Corporations by WBENC, USBLN Corporation of the Year, and NGLCC Corporation of the Year, among numerous others.

Michael’s IBM experience has spanned various disciplines. His previous positions include: Manufacturing Manager, Procurement and Production Control Manager in Charlotte, NC; Distribution Manager in Boulder, CO; ECAT Site Procurement Manager in Charlotte, NC; Materials Manager in San Jose, CA; Business Services Council Chair in Charlotte, NC and Federal Procurement Manager in Bethesda, MD. Michael attended the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. He received his BS from Cheyney University in Philadelphia and his MBA from Atlanta University.

Moreen Romans  
*Senior Director, Global Risk*  
*Dun & Bradstreet*

Moreen Romans supports both the Supply Management Solutions business unit and, within that, the Global Supplier Diversity programs. Both leverage D&B’s global database of over 230 million businesses to develop solutions that help customers strategically manage supply chain risk. Moreen has been a key contributor in helping transform D&B’s Supply Management business into one of its fastest growing businesses by matching innovation in content delivery, analytics and visualization tools to marketplace needs.

Moreen draws on more than 25 years of experience in strategy, project management, sales and marketing. She resides in Bethlehem, PA with her husband Gary, and enjoys keeping busy with home improvement projects.

Natalie Stirling-Sanders  
*Category Family Manager for Transportation & Logistics*  
*Procurement*  
*ExxonMobil*

Natalie Stirling-Sanders was most recently ExxonMobil’s Global Manager of Local Content, Supplier.
Megan Stowe has been at Intel for 21 years working in Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and the UK. She has predominantly held global positions, setting global procurement and supply chain strategies, performance metrics and managing global teams. Currently, Megan looks across the indirect services/procurement supply chain in the EMEA Region to implement global strategies locally and drive local strategies where Needed. Additionally, she manages the International Supplier Diversity and Inclusion program. Through this program, Intel has and continues to increase spending with diverse and women-owned businesses at the tier 1 and 2 levels, while developing a pipeline of inclusive sourcing opportunities.

Megan is a board member of WEConnect International, Chair and Director of the European WEConnect Advisory board, and Co-Chair of the WISE Young Women’s Board. Her passion is to promote the education and empowerment of women and girls around the STEM and business areas. Megan is a graduate of the University of Cape Town and holds an MD in Psychiatry/Sports medicine.

Ronnie Tham
Director of Sustainability, Global Sourcing
Walmart

Based in China, Ronnie Tham directs Walmart’s corporate initiatives around factory energy efficiency, renewable energy and environmental sustainability. He spearheads the sustainability initiatives that support the goal of selling products that sustain the people and the environment. Since joining Walmart in 2009, Ronnie also held leadership roles in strategy, responsible sourcing, social and environmental compliance programs.

Prior to Walmart, Ronnie worked as a strategy consultant with the Boston Consulting Group where he helped companies across the region in strategy development, corporate planning, organizational transformation and change management. He graduated with an MBA with Highest Honors.
from Waseda University in Tokyo as a Monbukagakusho Scholar and studied accounting and finance at University of Warwick, UK.

Elizabeth A. Vazquez  
CEO and Co-Founder  
WEConnect International

Elizabeth Vazquez is a serial social entrepreneur and leader in women’s economic empowerment and global supplier diversity and inclusion. She is the co-author of Buying for Impact: How to Buy from Women and Change Our World.

Elizabeth is a member of the UN High Level Panel on Women’s Economic Empowerment. She sits on the Board of Directors of the Cornerstone Capital Group and the Board of Trustees of the Eisenhower Fellowships. She is an Advisor to the Clinton Global Initiative, a member of the International Council on Women’s Business Leadership, a W20 Representative to advance G20 commitments and the B20 SME Development Taskforce, and sits on the International Advisory Council for Walmart’s Global Women’s Economic Empowerment Initiative.

Elizabeth has a BA in Political Science from Arizona State University and an MA in Law and Diplomacy from Tufts University. She has completed graduate seminars at Harvard Law School and the Kennedy School of Government, the Heinz School of Public Policy and Management at Carnegie Mellon University, and Sookmyung Women’s University in South Korea.
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