

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Argent Associates Named 2018 Women Business Enterprise (WBE) of the Year**

Plano, Texas, February 7, 2018 – Argent Associates, a leading woman-owned, Hispanic business headquartered in North Texas, was recently named the outstanding WBE of the Year by the Women’s Business Council – Southwest at their annual Parade of Stars Gala on February 2nd. Argent took home the honors among several stellar companies with revenues exceeding \$20 million annually.

The nominees (all with annual revenues greater than \$20 million) were judged by an independent panel from the Women’s Business Enterprise Council South. Blind nominations were evaluated based upon excellence in operations, continued revenue growth, financial strength, utilization of other women-owned suppliers, innovative solutions, and contributions to the community.

“It is quite a honor to be recognized for the work we do and our achievements,” said CEO Beatriz (Betty) Manetta. “We are celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> Year anniversary this year and this certainly is a wonderful way to start the celebration. Our team at Argent is dedicated to delivering innovative emerging technology solutions that help make businesses and our world a better place to live. Our knowledge base and inquisitive culture keeps us asking and responding to the ever-changing challenges and opportunities in today’s technology environment.”

Argent Associates, Inc. is systems integrator and technology innovator. Its family of companies creates and delivers technology business solutions that work for a better world. This includes their legacy end-to-end lifecycle asset management and supply chain optimization division, along with their professional network and software engineering services, alternative energy division and emerging technologies research and development arm. The firm has shown steady growth because of its willingness to evolve with the fast-changing technology environment. The results have seen Argent develop, configure and deploy solutions from distributive antennae systems increasing wireless network access in arenas and transportation to smart city technology delivering sensory connectivity to environmental shipment tracking systems to identify and quantify conditions of precious cargo.

In addition to Argent’s focus on technology solutions, it is also a strong supporter of increasing the utilization of women-owned businesses in the marketplace. Manetta, who was named to the Top 100 STEM Executives in the country, believes strongly in helping women be better equipped to participate in the technology field, starting at a young age.

“It’s one of my passions,” said Manetta. “To build a better world and economy, we must be inclusive of all talents and viewpoints. We must encourage and equip women to engage in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It’s where innovative solutions emerge. No

one group has a lock on innovation and my diverse team has been instrumental in our success. Diversity and inclusion is important to me and my company. It's why I am a part of WBCS and its work to promote women-owned businesses.”

The Women's Business Council - Southwest WBE of the Year award is one of the most prestigious awards recognizing and honoring WBEs for their exemplary contributions in achieving the Council's mission of advancing and enhancing business opportunities between WBEs, corporate America, and the government.