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Congresswoman Matsui Honored as an AbilityOne Champion

Tours PRIDE Industries and Meets with Employees

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SACRAMENTO, CA – Congresswoman Doris Matsui (CA-05) today toured the PRIDE Industries Sacramento facility and was honored as an AbilityOne Champion in recognition for her commitment to improving the lives and increasing employment options for those Americans with disabilities.

“PRIDE Industries is a shining example of how non-profits, businesses, and government agencies can work together to support people with disabilities while receiving quality work,” Congresswoman Matsui said. “I am honored to be recognized as an AbilityOne Champion and will continue to support this successful and important program.”

The AbilityOne Program is a federal initiative to help people who are blind or have other significant disabilities find employment. With more than 600 community-based non-profit agencies as strategic partners nationwide, the AbilityOne program helps bring employment to more than 50,000 people with disabilities. Established in 2002, the AbilityOne Congressional Champions Program seeks to honor Representatives and Senators who have demonstrated a commitment to their constituents with disabilities and to the AbilityOne Program.

PRIDE Industries employs nearly 1,000 individuals on AbilityOne contracts, including 350

in the state of California. Their Sacramento facility, toured by Congresswoman Matsui today, employs 260 employees with disabilities who perform light manufacturing, including packaging, fulfillment, and assembly. During her visit, the Congresswoman met with employees working on a contract with Unisource, one of PRIDE Industries largest clients. The employees were assembling boxes for Apple. These boxes will be used to return iPods to Apple customers who send them in to be repaired.

"Congresswoman Matsui is a long-time friend and supporter of PRIDE Industries," says Michael Ziegler, President and Chief Executive Officer, PRIDE Industries. "She understands the powerful impact that the Federal Government through the AbilityOne™ program can make on changing lives - one job at a time. I am grateful for Congresswoman Matsui's support of job creation for people with disabilities here at home and across the nation."

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