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## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release:  
Summer 2013

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### TANTARA Corporation among ICIC and *FORTUNE*'s Inner City 100 winners

*Annual ranking showcases the 100 fastest-growing urban businesses in America.*



Worcester, MA –The Initiative for a Competitive Inner City (ICIC) and *FORTUNE* Magazine recognized Worcester-based TANTARA Corporation on the “**2013 Inner City 100**” fastest-growing urban business list. The Inner City 100 program recognizes the top fastest growing firms and their CEOs as role models for entrepreneurship, innovative business practices and job creation in America’s urban communities. TANTARA ranked 42<sup>nd</sup> on the list, which can be viewed at [Fortune.com](http://Fortune.com).

Founded in 2000, **TANTARA Corporation** is a certified small, disadvantaged, woman-owned 8(a) and HUBZone firm that provides environmental remediation and heavy civil construction services. The firm’s growth – an estimated 5-year annual +30% through 2011 – and success are directly related to its decision to diversify operations primarily within the federal market and to expand geographic reach.

The rankings for each company were announced at the Inner City 100 Awards on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 in Boston, Massachusetts. The Awards marked the Inner City 100 program’s 15<sup>th</sup> year. Keynote speakers included Harvard Business School Professor Michael E. Porter and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino.

The ICIC is a non-profit research and strategy organization and the leading authority on U.S. inner city economies and the businesses that thrive there. Founded in 1994 by Professor Porter, ICIC seeks to strengthen inner city economies by providing businesses, governments and investors with comprehensive and actionable information in the field about urban market opportunities. The Inner City 100 list winners represent a wide span of geography, operating in 48 cities and 27 states.

“We are excited to celebrate inner city businesses like TANTARA Corporation whose success stories are not told nearly enough,” said Mary Kay Leonard, president and CEO of ICIC. “These entrepreneurs are driving economic forces in America’s urban cores, growing their communities along with their businesses.”

TANTARA Corporation shares the ICIC philosophy that a dynamic urban marketplace powered by diversity, creative enterprise and untapped competitive advantages is worth promoting. Firm President Dawn Dearborn believes, "A successful enterprise, like ours, is enhanced by being a Small Business Administration (SBA) certified HUBZone company. We are honored to have found ourselves on this list and proud to see our very productive workforce recognized in this manner. Our fellow employees share my commitment to providing clients with the very best in services and results."



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### About TANTARA Corporation

Founded in 2000, TANTARA is a certified small, disadvantaged, woman-owned, 8(a) and HUBZone firm with diverse specialties. The firm provides environmental remediation and heavy civil construction services along the Eastern Seaboard to clients like the Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Coast Guard, the U.S. Air Force, the Air National Guard, the National Park Service, as well as numerous commercial, industrial, utility and private institutional sector clients. TANTARA recently invested in a Geoprobe® direct-push machine that allows TANTARA to expand its services to include early investigational and boring services. Management and staff take pride in contributing to the company's reputation for integrity, quality and results. TANTARA can always be relied on to be a problem solver that puts a great emphasis on customer satisfaction. And customer satisfaction pays off – in addition to being ranked among the ICIC Inner City 100 firms, TANTARA was also recently ranked 15th of the *Boston Business Journal's* 2013 Pacesetters Select 70, meaning we are "among the greatest innovators and leaders within a wide variety of cutting edge and traditional industries" that are growing quickly. [www.TantaraCorp.com](http://www.TantaraCorp.com)

See the entire list at [Fortune.com](http://Fortune.com) or at <http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/innercity100/>

### About Initiative for a Competitive Inner City / ICIC

ICIC is a nonprofit research and strategy organization and the leading authority on U.S. inner city economies and the businesses that thrive there. Founded in 1994 by Harvard Business School Professor Michael Porter, ICIC expands inner city economies by providing businesses, governments and investors with the most comprehensive and actionable information in the field about urban market opportunities. ICIC's unique knowledge and expertise about inner city success factors and thriving companies is developed from specialized urban networks and path-breaking research. [www.icic.org](http://www.icic.org)

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