

## SureWerx Named One of Canada's Best Managed Companies for the Second Consecutive Year

Industry-leading supplier of professional tool, equipment and safety products distinguished again for its world-class culture and strategic business planning practices

**VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA – (March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017)** – SureWerx, a leading supplier of tool, equipment and safety products for professional workers across North America, has been selected as one of Canada's Best Managed Companies for the second successive year. Building upon its dynamic company culture and innovative strategic planning processes, SureWerx has continued to propel itself forward through a laser-focused commitment to strategic advancement, team collaboration, and dedicated customer service. Evaluated by an independent panel of judges from Deloitte, CIBC, *Canadian Business*, Smith School of Business and MacKay CEO Forums, the Best Managed program recognizes Canadian-owned and managed companies that demonstrate innovative, world-class business practices, and put emphasis on culture and people, sustained performance and strong financial results.

"I am proud to see SureWerx recognized as a recipient of the Canada's Best Managed Companies Award for the second year in a row," said Clive Shepherd, General Manager Canada. "SureWerx has one guiding principle in all that we do – to 'Find a Better Way'. From customer experience to product development to process optimization, our dedicated team constantly focuses on better ways to deliver increased safety and productivity to the professional workers in Canada. This award is a testament to all our team has accomplished."

"CIBC is thrilled to congratulate SureWerx on being named one of Canada's Best Managed Companies, recognizing its excellence in leadership, business performance and innovation," said Jon Hountalas, Executive Vice President, Business and Corporate Banking, CIBC. "As a sponsor of Canada's Best Managed Companies program for over 20 years, CIBC is proud to celebrate private companies like SureWerx as leaders in their industry."

Fine-tuning its highly successful 5-year strategic plan to meet the challenges of its fast-paced industry, SureWerx has implemented continuous, cutting-edge improvements to its service, hiring practices and business process planning. This includes a dedication to fostering entrepreneurialism, creativity and a diversity of perspective among its staff that has ensured consistent excellence in business performance, pushing the boundaries to deliver exceptional products and customer experience.

"Becoming one of Canada's Best Managed Companies is a true reflection of the commitment that each SureWerx employee has to ensuring we are the best we can be," said Anna-Maria Parente, Global Vice President of Human Resources, SureWerx. "We continue to hire employees from diverse backgrounds, who have specific experience and skills to complement what we currently have; who challenge us to think differently, be better and not be afraid of breaking new ground. Encouraging them to pursue their ideas for continuous professional development, we want all employees to collaborate, to solve problems, to be entrepreneurs and to run our business as if it were their own – a key foundation our culture."



2017 winners of the Canada's Best Managed Companies award will be honoured at the annual Canada's Best Managed Companies gala in Toronto on April 19, 2017. On the same date, the Best Managed symposium will address leading-edge business issues that are key to the success of today's business leaders.

### **About SureWerx**

Headquartered in Vancouver, Canada, SureWerx™ is a leading supplier of professional tool, equipment and safety products for workers. SureWerx markets its products in Canada under the JET®, Strongarm®, ITC®, STARTECH®, Pioneer®, Ranpro®, PeakWorks®, and Sellstrom® brands, and in the United States under the American Forge & Foundry®, Pioneer, Ranpro, PeakWorks, and Sellstrom brands. SureWerx offers an unparalleled access to its brands through its partner distributor network servicing the industrial, construction, safety, and automotive aftermarket in North America. SureWerx is owned by Penfund, one of Canada's oldest independent private equity firms. For more information, please visit us at [www.surewerx.com](http://www.surewerx.com) or [www.surewerx.ca](http://www.surewerx.ca).

### **About Canada's Best Managed Companies**

Canada's Best Managed Companies continues to be the mark of excellence for Canadian-owned and managed companies with revenues over \$15 million. Every year since the launch of the program in 1993, hundreds of entrepreneurial companies have competed for this designation in a rigorous and independent process that evaluates their management skills and practices. The awards are granted on four levels: 1) Canada's Best Managed Companies new winner (one of the new winners selected each year); 2) Canada's Best Managed Companies winner (award recipients that have re-applied and successfully retained their Best Managed designation for two additional years, subject to annual operational and financial review); 3) Gold Standard winner (After three consecutive years of maintaining their Best Managed status, these winners have demonstrated their commitment to the program and successfully retained their award for 4-6 consecutive years); 4) Platinum Club member (Winners that have maintained their Best Managed status for seven years or more). Program sponsors are Deloitte, CIBC, Canadian Business, Smith School of Business and MacKay CEO Forums. For further information, visit [www.bestmanagedcompanies.ca](http://www.bestmanagedcompanies.ca).

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