

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Michael McLarney, 416-489-3396

Call for Entries: The Hardlines 2015 Outstanding Retailer Awards

NEW WORLD HQ, TORONTO, March 27, 2015 — HARDLINES is pleased to announce the call for entries for the 2015 Outstanding Retailer Awards.

The Awards, which recognize the finest retailers in the hardware and home improvement industry, are national in scope and all Canadian home improvement retailers and managers who have operated under their current ownership for at least two years are eligible.

Dealers may submit their entries directly to HARDLINES or their chain or buying group head offices may select their best dealer(s) and prepare their entries for them, in collaboration with the dealer. Head offices may enter more than one store per category. In addition, vendors may identify specific outstanding retailers for entry. ORA submissions are due July 31st, 2015.

Categories to enter:

1. Best Hardware Store (any size);
2. Best Building Supply/Home Centre (under 15,000 square feet);
3. Best Building Supply/Home Centre (over 15,000 square feet);
4. Young Retailer Award (a store manager 35 or under; entrants may be owners or chain employees);
5. Marc Robichaud Community Leader This award is open to all stores. Its purpose is to celebrate the outstanding contributions, events, charitable donations, etc., made by a store's staff/managers/owners to the community they serve;
6. Best Large Surface Retailer (over 65,000 square feet);
7. Best Contractor Specialist Store.

Winners will receive a trip for two to Toronto, including one night's accommodation at the Westin Bristol Place Toronto Airport Hotel, to attend the Hardlines Conference on October 21 and 22 and the ORA Gala Dinner on October 21. In addition, winners will receive an inscribed plaque; a write-up in *Hardlines Home Improvement Quarterly* magazine; and a customized video and photo ready to be sent to local media. For complete application information, please visit www.oras.ca.

About Hardlines

Celebrating its 20th year, Hardlines Inc. is a leading authority on the retail home improvement industry. Hardlines' products and services include the HARDLINES weekly electronic newsletter; *Hardlines Home Improvement Quarterly* magazine; a free Daily News Service; and the Annual Hardlines Conference. For more information, please contact Michael McLarney, Editor of Hardlines, at 416-489-3396 or mike@hardlines.ca.