



## News Release

### **PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE ACHIEVES RECOGNITION FROM ACE HARDWARE CORPORATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE**

*3 Neighborhood stores recognized as high performing retail locations*

**BUXTON, ME, May 18, 2016**-Ace Hardware Corporation is pleased to announce that PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE of BUXTON, LIMERICK, and WATERBORO all achieved designation as "Platinum Performance Retailing" stores for their outstanding performance. Developed as part of Ace's long-term retail growth strategy, 20/20 Vision, Platinum Performance Retailing is laser-focused on Ace's customers, helping to ensure that Ace stores deliver on its brand promise day in and day out.

For more than 90 years, Ace Hardware has been serving its neighbors with helpful service and quality products. With more than 4,800 stores in more than 60 countries, the teams at PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE are three of only a few hundred Ace retailers to achieve this prestigious Platinum status. To achieve Platinum Performance Retailing, the teams at PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE successfully completed a number of performance drivers that will help them provide a better overall shopping experience in their local communities.

One example of a proven performance driver is "Helpful Certification," the foundational element of Ace's "Certified Ace Helpful" retail training curriculum. To become certified, Ace Hardware associates complete courses such as Helpful 101 and 201 and the store conducts a week-long team-based certification event.

"It is a truly commendable accomplishment for an Ace store to achieve Platinum Performance Retailing status," said Dan Miller, Vice President, Retail Operations and New Business, Ace Hardware Corporation. "We're pleased to recognize all 3 of PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE locations and their associates for their outstanding achievements, and proud to say they're a part of the Ace family."

"The teams at PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE are incredibly pleased to have earned the status as Platinum Performance Retailing stores," said TROY PLUMMER, OWNER at PLUMMER'S ACE HARDWARE. What this means for our customers is that we are more committed than ever to providing our loyal shoppers with the best possible retail experience; from customer service to product offerings and more, we're taking 'Ace helpful' to a new level."

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#### **About Ace Hardware**

For more than 90 years, Ace Hardware has been known as the place with the helpful hardware folks in thousands of neighborhoods across America, providing customers with a more personal kind of helpful. In 2015, Ace ranked "Highest in Customer Satisfaction among Home Improvement Retail Stores, Nine Years in a Row," according to J.D. Power. With more than 4,800 hardware stores locally owned and operated across the globe, Ace is the largest retailer-owned hardware cooperative in the world. Headquartered in Oak Brook, Ill., Ace and its subsidiaries currently operate 17 distribution centers in the U.S. and also have distribution capabilities in Shanghai, China; Panama City, Panama; and Dubai, United Arab Emirates. Its retailers' stores are located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and approximately 60 countries. For more information on Ace, visit [www.acehardware.com](http://www.acehardware.com).