

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Imperial Manufacturing Group awarded the Platinum Club designation from Canada's Best Managed Companies

Richibucto, NB – May 15, 2017 – Imperial Manufacturing Group, with its head office located in Richibucto, New Brunswick, has achieved Platinum Club status with the Canada's Best Managed Companies program by retaining its Best Managed designation for seven consecutive years. Normand Caissie, accompanied with his executive management team, accepted the prestigious national award during the Gala celebrations in Toronto April 19th.

"It's a real honour to accept such an award on behalf of our near 1,000 employees in both Canada and the US", said Normand Caissie, owner and CEO. "For a 38 year old startup company to achieve such a membership, you can just imagine all the hard work, passion, and dedication it took from our people over the years. Our employees, customers, suppliers...everyone working together made our organization a true success. We have so much to be thankful for."

"Best Managed Platinum winners have exceptional insights and knowledge into business management practices. They are an inspiration and really take their game to a new level," said Peter Brown, Partner at Deloitte and Co-Leader for Canada's Best Managed Companies program.

Imperial Manufacturing Group is a world class manufacturer of heating, venting and air conditioning (HVAC), stove and fireplace maintenance and building products that Mr. Caissie founded in a 6,000-sq. ft. building in 1979. Since then, the company has established locations in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Ontario, Quebec, and the United States representation over 800,000 square feet of manufacturing and warehousing space.

"Best Managed Companies like Imperial Manufacturing Group exhibit exceptional business performance and outstanding leadership in the Canadian marketplace, sharing an investment mindset that places them amongst the best in class." said Stephen Lund, Moncton Market Leader at Deloitte. "What sets a Best Managed Company apart is the ability to execute on its strategy. Goals become a reality when every individual within an organization is committed and understands what they can do to help actualize the strategy."

"Companies that earn Platinum Club status, by retaining their Best Managed status for seven years or more, exemplify vision and leadership and a sustained commitment to growth and innovation," said Jon Hountalas, Executive Vice President, Business and Corporate Banking at CIBC.

"We look forward to the next step of our journey.... continuous growth, acquisitions, new customers, new products, continuous improvement... all of this to become a better organization tomorrow than we are today" said proudly Mr. Caissie. "We live in a competitive global market and we need to be the best in our industry if we want to continue to excel for the next 38 years."

Imperial Manufacturing Group was first recognized as one of Canada's Best Managed Companies back in 2010. Established in 1993, Canada's Best Managed Companies is one of the country's leading business awards programs recognizing Canadian-owned and managed companies for innovative, world-class business practices. Applicants are evaluated by an independent judging panel made up of judges from

Deloitte, CIBC, *Canadian Business*, Smith School of Business and MacKay CEO Forums. Best Managed Companies share commonalities that include an emphasis on culture and people, innovation, sustained performance and strong financial results. Platinum Club members are winners of the program who have maintained their Best Managed status for seven years or more.

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.

For further information contact: Andrée Caissie Savoie, 506-523-9117, ext. 1257.

E-mail: andree.caissie@imperialgroup.ca