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**SUGAR GROVE ACE ACHIEVES HIGHEST LEVEL OF RECOGNITION FROM ACE
HARDWARE CORPORATION FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE**
Neighborhood store recognized as a top performing retail location

Oak Brook, IL November 12, 2018 – Ace Hardware Corporation is pleased to announce that Sugar Grove Ace of Sugar Grove IL has again achieved the designation as a “Pinnacle Performance Retailing” store for its outstanding performance. Developed as part of Ace’s long-term retail growth strategy, 20/20 Vision, Pinnacle 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 5,200 stores in more than 65 countries, the team at Sugar Grove Ace is one of only a few hundred Ace retailers to achieve this prestigious Pinnacle status. To achieve Pinnacle Performance Retailing, the team at Sugar Grove Ace successfully completed several key performance drivers that will help them provide a better overall shopping experience in their local community.

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.

“Achieving Pinnacle Performance Retailing is a tremendous accomplishment for an Ace store,” said John Tovar, Vice President, Retail Operations and New Business, Ace Hardware Corporation. “Sugar Grove Ace has now been open 4 years and has earned this award all four of those years. We’re again pleased to recognize Mark Driscoll and his team of associates at Sugar Grove Ace for their outstanding achievements, and proud to say they are a part of the Ace family.”

“The team at Sugar Grove Ace is incredibly pleased to have earned the status as a Pinnacle Performance Retailing store again this year,” said Mark Driscoll, Owner of Sugar Grove Ace. “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

Ace Hardware is the largest retailer-owned hardware cooperative in the world with more than 5,200 locally owned and operated hardware stores in approximately 65 countries. Headquartered in Oak Brook, Ill., Ace and its subsidiaries operate an expansive network of distribution centers in the U.S. and have distribution capabilities in Ningbo, China; Colon, Panama; and Dubai, United Arab

Emirates. Since 1924, Ace has become a part of local communities around the world and known as the place with the helpful hardware folks. For more information, visit acehardware.com or newsroom.acehardware.com.