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General Shale Wins 2015 CenturyLink Faith in the Future Award

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.—General Shale was chosen as a 2015 winner of the highly sought-after Faith in the Future Award in the Manufacturing Category. Recipients were evaluated by judges based on their commitment to the future of their business, their employees, their community and the region. The award is presented by CenturyLink.

Headquartered in Johnson City, Tenn., General Shale is the North American subsidiary of Wienerberger AG and a leading manufacturer of brick, one of the world's oldest green building materials.

In its nomination, it was noted that General Shale has been an important part of the region since 1928. And even through tough economic times, the company has continued to invest in the region with donations of materials for important projects such as the first brick Habitat for Humanity home built locally, Niswonger Children's Hospital, the Washington County/Johnson City Animal Shelter, The Tweetsie Trail, and numerous buildings at East Tennessee State University.

"General Shale is one of the top three largest brick manufacturers in North America, but Johnson City is the location of our corporate headquarters and we will always do what we can to invest in the future of this community," says Charles Smith, president and CEO of General Shale. "We are honored to be recognized for our faith in the future of this area, and we owe our success and ability to move forward in this way to our dedicated employees and loyal customers."

Businesses and individuals from Carter, Greene, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi and Washington counties (Tennessee and Virginia) are invited to participate. An evaluation team from outside of the area reviews all nominations based on the criteria, choosing one winner per category. The nomination process allows for a business to review its strengths, as well as its impact on the community.

This is the sixth year for the Faith in the Future awards. The awards were presented Friday, November 13th at the Millennium Centre in Johnson City. There were 34 nominees for the eight categories. Only one winner was chosen per category.

ABOUT GENERAL SHALE

General Shale is one of North America's largest brick, stone and concrete block manufacturers, supplying a wide variety of masonry materials for residential, commercial and specialty architectural projects. These materials include brick, thin veneers, stone, outdoor living kits, concrete block and various building materials, which include Arriscraft® Stone Products. The company offers an array of sizes, colors and textures to complete any building project. With a life cycle of more than 100 years, the sustainability of brick is the company's commitment to responsible stewardship.

Throughout the U.S. and Canada, General Shale operates manufacturing facilities in nine states and provinces, in addition to a network of more than 40 retail showrooms and over 300 affiliated distributors across North America. In 1999, General Shale grew even stronger when it joined Wienerberger AG of Vienna, Austria, the world's largest brick manufacturer.

General Shale was founded in 1928 and is headquartered in Johnson City, Tenn. For more information, visit www.generalshale.com.

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