



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
Oct. 4, 2017

Contact Information: Dawn Henning
800-414-4661, dawn.henning@generalshale.com

General Shale's North Carolina Locations Receive Top Honors in State Safety Awards

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. — General Shale, one of North America's largest brick, stone and concrete block manufacturers, has received the North Carolina Department of Labor's top annual safety awards for a production facility and several retail locations across the state.

For the sixth consecutive year, the North Carolina Department of Labor presented the Gold Award, which recognizes outstanding health and safety efforts in 2016, to each of General Shale's retail locations in Charlotte, Kernersville, Raleigh and Sanford. General Shale's retail location in Wilmington received the Gold Award for the seventh consecutive year. The Gold Award is the top annual safety award issued by North Carolina's Department of Labor. The company's Brickhaven production facility, near Moncure, received a Silver Award.

Headquartered in Johnson City, Tennessee, 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.

"At General Shale, safety is one of our core values," says Charles Smith, president and CEO of General Shale. "These awards are the direct result of teamwork and our company-wide commitment to workplace safety. I am proud of the dedication displayed by our North Carolina teams, and I commend them for their exceptional records of accident-free operations."

The North Carolina Department of Labor's Safety Awards Program recognizes private and public firms throughout the state that achieve and maintain good health and safety records. To qualify for a safety award, a company must have had no fatalities during the calendar year at the location for which the award was given, and must have maintained an incidence rate that is at least 50 percent below the average for its particular industry group.

"It is an honor to be recognized for excellence in safety," says Brian Ogle, safety and risk manager for General Shale. "We have gone to great lengths to ensure our employees, who are our most valuable assets, are safe on the job, and our company remains committed to making safety a top priority."

ABOUT GENERAL SHALE

General Shale is one of North America's largest brick, stone and concrete block manufacturers. Founded in 1928, the company offers an endless array of sizes, colors and textures in a wide

variety of masonry materials to complete any residential, commercial or specialty architectural project. These materials include brick, thin masonry, stone, outdoor living products, concrete block and various building materials, which include Arriscraft® Stone and Pipelife Jet Stream products.

Throughout the U.S. and Canada, General Shale operates sales and manufacturing facilities in 15 states and provinces, in addition to a network of 31 retail showrooms and more than 300 affiliated distributors across North America. The company grew even stronger in 1999 when it joined Wienerberger AG of Vienna, Austria, the world's largest brick manufacturer. With a life cycle of more than 100 years, the sustainability of brick is General Shale's commitment to responsible stewardship.

General Shale is headquartered in Johnson City, Tennessee. For more information, visit www.generalshale.com.

– ### –