

### Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation Reports Second Quarter Fiscal 2017 Financial Results

December 1, 2016

- Second Quarter Net Sales of \$233.5 Million, up 63.0% Year-Over-Year
  - Second Quarter GAAP Net Income Per Diluted Share of \$0.57
- Second Quarter Non-GAAP Net Income Per Diluted Share of \$0.68 Company Increases Full Year Fiscal 2017 Financial Guidance

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 1, 2016 /PRNewswire/ -- Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation (NASDAQ Global Select: SWHC), one of the world's leading providers of firearms and quality products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast, today announced financial results for the fiscal second quarter 2017, ended October 31, 2016.

### Second Quarter Fiscal 2017 Financial Highlights

- Quarterly net sales were \$233.5 million compared with \$143.2 million for the second quarter last year, an increase of 63.0%.
- Gross margin for the quarter was 41.8% compared with 39.2% for the second quarter last year.
- Quarterly GAAP net income was \$32.5 million, or \$0.57 per diluted share, compared with \$12.5 million, or \$0.22 per diluted share, for the comparable quarter last year.
- Quarterly non-GAAP net income was \$39.1 million, or \$0.68 per diluted share, compared with \$14.2 million, or \$0.25 per
  diluted share, for the comparable quarter last year. GAAP to non-GAAP adjustments in net income exclude a number of
  acquisition-related costs, including amortization, one-time transaction costs, and inventory valuation adjustments. For a
  detailed reconciliation, see the schedules that follow in this release.
- Quarterly non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDAS was \$72.4 million, or 31.0% of net sales.
- The company acquired substantially all of the net assets of Taylor Brands, LLC ("Taylor Brands") and all of the issued and outstanding stock of Crimson Trace Corporation ("Crimson Trace") for an aggregate of \$178.1 million, subject to certain adjustments, utilizing cash on hand.
- The company's unsecured revolving credit line commitment was increased to \$500 million from \$225 million.

James Debney, Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation President and Chief Executive Officer, said, "We are very pleased with our second quarter results, which exceeded our financial guidance. In our Firearms Segment, we believe higher revenue was driven by strong consumer demand as reflected in adjusted background checks from the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) as well as our own market share gains. In our Outdoor Products & Accessories Segment, we completed the acquisitions of Taylor Brands and Crimson Trace, both of which were accretive to our non-GAAP earnings."

"Subsequent to the end of the quarter, we completed the acquisition of substantially all of the net assets of Ultimate Survival Technologies, Inc. ("UST"), a provider of high-quality survival and camping products. UST delivered compound annual revenue growth of 49% from 2012 through 2015, maintained healthy gross margins, and developed hundreds of high quality products. We believe the UST distribution network will create incremental opportunities for our existing accessory product lines."

"Overall, we are well on our way to achieving our vision of being a leading provider of high-quality products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast. By executing our strategy, we have successfully grown from a single operating division to four operating divisions that serve a large addressable market and represent more than 18 respected consumer brands. Accordingly, on January 1, 2017, our holding corporation will become American Outdoor Brands Corporation, pending shareholder approval. We believe this name better represents our broad range of product offerings and our plan to continue building upon our portfolio of strong American brands. American Outdoor Brands Corporation will serve as the holding corporation for Smith & Wesson Corp., Battenfeld Technologies, Inc., and Crimson Trace Corporation, which represent our company's firearms, manufacturing services, accessories, and electro-optics divisions. With a commitment to creating, preserving, and acquiring strong brands, we remain committed to our future growth, focusing on brands and products that best meet the needs and lifestyle of our target consumers," concluded Debney.

Jeffrey D. Buchanan, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Administrative Officer, said, "During the quarter, we secured a commitment to increase our revolving line of credit to \$500 million from \$225 million. This expansion of our unsecured credit line provides us with greater opportunities to invest in our future growth, both organically and through strategic acquisitions. Our increased access to capital is a clear reflection of the confidence our bankers have in our company as well as the overall strength of our business."

### **Financial Outlook**

Net sales (in thousands)	\$	230,000	\$	240,000	\$	920,000	\$	930,000
GAAP income per share - diluted	\$	0.44	\$	0.49	\$	2.11	\$	2.16
Acquisition-related costs		_		_		0.06		0.06
Amortization of acquired intangible								
assets		0.10		0.10		0.32		0.32
Fair value inventory step-up and								
backlog expense		0.01		0.01		0.08		0.08
Transition costs		0.01		0.01		0.02		0.02
Tax effect of non-GAAP		(0.04)		(0.04)		(0.17)		(0.17)
adjustments	Φ.				Ф.		Ф.	(0.17)
Non-GAAP income per share - diluted	Ф	0.52	Φ	0.57	<u> </u>	2.42	Φ	2.47

### **Conference Call and Webcast**

The company will host a conference call and webcast today, December 1, 2016, to discuss its second quarter fiscal 2017 financial and operational results. Speakers on the conference call will include James Debney, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Jeffrey D. Buchanan, Executive Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Administrative Officer. The conference call may include forward-looking statements. The conference call and webcast will begin at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (2:00 p.m. Pacific Time). Those interested in listening to the conference call via telephone may call directly at (844) 309-6568 and reference conference code 22558234. No RSVP is necessary. The conference call audio webcast can also be accessed live and for replay on the company's website at <a href="https://www.smith-wesson.com">www.smith-wesson.com</a>, under the Investor Relations section. The company will maintain an audio replay of this conference call on its website for a period of time after the call. No other audio replay will be available.

#### Reconciliation of U.S. GAAP to Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In this press release, certain non-GAAP financial measures, including "non-GAAP net income," "Adjusted EBITDAS," and "free cash flow" are presented. From time-to-time, the company considers and uses these supplemental measures of operating performance in order to provide the reader with an improved understanding of underlying performance trends. The company believes it is useful for itself and the reader to review, as applicable, both (1) GAAP measures that include (i) amortization of acquired intangible assets, (ii) TCA accessories transition costs, (iii) discontinued operations, (iv) DOJ and SEC costs including insurance recovery costs, (v) acquisition-related costs, (vi) fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense, (vii) bond premium paid, (viii) debt extinguishment costs, (ix) the tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments, (x) net cash provided by operating activities, (xi) net cash used in investing activities, (xii) acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired, (xiii) receipts from note receivable, (xiv) interest expense (xv) income tax expense, (xvi) depreciation and amortization, and (xvii) stock-based compensation expense; and (2) the non-GAAP measures that exclude such information. The company presents these non-GAAP measures because it considers them an important supplemental measure of its performance. The company's definition of these adjusted financial measures may differ from similarly named measures used by others. The company believes these measures facilitate operating performance comparisons from period to period by eliminating potential differences caused by the existence and timing of certain expense items that would not otherwise be apparent on a GAAP basis. These non-GAAP measures have limitations as an analytical tool and should not be considered in isolation or as a substitute for the company's GAAP measures. The principal limitations of these measures are that they do not reflect the company's actual expenses and may thus have the effect of inflating its financial measures on a GAAP b

#### **About Smith & Wesson**

Smith & Wesson Holding Corporation (NASDAQ Global Select: SWHC) is a provider of quality products for shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiasts in the global consumer and professional markets. The Company reports two segments: Firearms and Outdoor Products & Accessories. Firearms manufactures handgun and long gun products sold under the Smith & Wesson®, M&P®, and Thompson/Center Arms<sup>TM</sup> brands as well as providing forging, machining, and precision plastic injection molding services. Outdoor Products & Accessories provides shooting, hunting, and outdoor accessories, including reloading, gunsmithing, and gun cleaning supplies, tree saws, vault accessories, knives, laser sighting systems, tactical lighting products, and survival and camping equipment. Brands in Outdoor Products & Accessories include Smith & Wesson®, M&P®, Thompson/Center Arms<sup>TM</sup>, Crimson Trace®, Caldwell®Shooting Supplies, Wheeler® Engineering, Tipton® Gun Cleaning Supplies, Frankford Arsenal® Reloading Tools, Lockdown® Vault Accessories, Hooyman® Premium Tree Saws, BOG POD®, Golden Rod® Moisture Control, Schrade®, Old Timer®, Uncle Henry®, UST®, and Imperial<sup>TM</sup>. For more information or&mith & Wesson, call (800) 331-0852 or log on to <a href="https://www.smith-wesson.com">www.smith-wesson.com</a>.

### Safe Harbor Statement

Certain statements contained in this press release may be deemed to be forward-looking statements under federal securities laws, and we intend that such forward-looking statements be subject to the safe-harbor created thereby. Such forward-looking statements include our belief that higher revenue was driven by strong consumer demand as reflected in adjusted background checks from the NICS system as well as our own market share gains; our belief that the Taylor Brands and Crimson Trace acquisitions were accretive to our non-GAAP earnings; our belief that the UST distribution network will create incremental opportunities for our existing accessory product lines; our belief that we are well on our way to achieving our vision of being a leading provider of high-quality products for the shooting, hunting, and rugged outdoor enthusiast; our expectation that our holding corporation will become American Outdoor Brands Corporation, pending shareholder approval; our belief that this name better represents our broad range of product offerings and our plan to continue building upon our portfolio of strong American brands; our commitment to creating, preserving, and acquiring strong brands and our commitment to our future growth, focusing on brands and products that best meet the needs and lifestyle of our target consumers; our belief that the expansion of our unsecured credit line provides us with greater opportunities to invest in our future growth, both organically and through strategic acquisitions; our belief that our increased access to capital is a clear reflection of the confidence our bankers have in our company as well as the overall strength of our business; and our expectations for net sales, GAAP income per diluted share, acquisition-related costs, amortization of acquired intangible assets, fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense, tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments, and non-GAAP income per diluted share for the third quarter of fiscal 2017 and for fiscal 2017. We caution that these statements are qualified by important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those reflected by such forward-looking statements. Such factors include the demand for our products; the costs and ultimate conclusion of certain legal matters; the state of the U.S. economy in general and the firearm industry in particular; general economic conditions and consumer spending patterns; the potential for increased regulation of firearms and firearm-related

products; speculation surrounding fears of terrorism and crime; our growth opportunities; our anticipated growth; our ability to increase demand for our products in various markets, including consumer, law enforcement, and military channels, domestically and internationally; the position of our hunting products in the consumer discretionary marketplace and distribution channel; our penetration rates in new and existing markets; our strategies; our ability to introduce new products; the success of new products; our ability to expand our markets; our ability to integrate acquired businesses in a successful manner; the general growth of our outdoor products and accessories business; the potential for cancellation of orders from our backlog; and other risks detailed from time to time in our reports filed with the SEC, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 30, 2016.

### SMITH & WESSON HOLDING CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended			For the Six Months Ended				
	October 31, 2016		October 31, 2015		October 31, 2016		r 31, 2016 October 31	
			(In th	nousands, ex	cept per s	hare data)		
Net sales	\$	233,528	\$	143,242	\$	440,479	\$	291,005
Cost of sales		135,923		87,027		255,305		175,920
Gross profit		97,605		56,215		185,174		115,085
Operating expenses:								
Research and development		2,698		2,695		4,851		5,091
Selling and marketing		12,527		12,536		21,721		21,754
General and administrative		30,229		19,202		53,926		36,640
Total operating expenses		45,454		34,433		80,498		63,485
Operating income		52,151		21,782		104,676		51,600
Other (expense)/income:								
Other (expense)/income		(30)		(5)		(30)		(12)
Interest (expense)/income		(2,175)		(2,296)		(4,188)		(9,496)
Total other (expense)/income, net		(2,205)		(2,301)		(4,218)		(9,508)
Income from operations before income taxes		49,946		19,481		100,458		42,092
Income tax expense		17,463		7,015		32,752		15,214
Net income		32,483		12,466		67,706		26,878
Net income per share:								
Basic	\$	0.58	\$	0.23	\$	1.21	\$	0.49
Diluted	\$	0.57	\$	0.22	\$	1.18	\$	0.48
Weighted average number of common shares								
outstanding:								
Basic		56,231		54,447		56,140		54,333
Diluted		57,136		55,668		57,145		55,621

### SMITH & WESSON HOLDING CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (Unaudited)

	As of			
	October 3	31, 2016	April 30, 2016	
	(In thousand	s, except par v	alue and share data)	
ASSETS				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	73,896	\$ 191,279	
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$805 on October 31, 2016 and				
\$680 on April 30, 2016		69,959	57,792	
Inventories		116,497	77,789	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		7,360	4,307	
Income tax receivable		6,000	2,064	
Total current assets		273,712	333,231	
Property, plant, and equipment, net		151,499	135,405	
Intangibles, net		139,152	62,924	
Goodwill		157,250	76,357	
Other assets		6,643	11,586	
	\$	728,256	\$ 619,503	
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	,			
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$	52,767	\$ 45,513	
Accrued expenses		33,627	28,447	
Accrued payroll and incentives		14,745	18,784	
Accrued income taxes		223	5,960	
Accrued profit sharing		6,760	11,459	

6,343	6,129
6,300	6,300
120,765	122,592
32,953	12,161
188,323	166,564
9,718	10,370
351,759	311,687
_	_
72	72
240,208	239,505
309,016	241,310
(476)	(748)
(172,323)	(172,323)
376,497	307,816
\$ 728,256	\$ 619,503
	6,300 120,765 32,953 188,323 9,718 351,759 

For the Six Months Ended

## SMITH & WESSON HOLDING CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

	FOI THE SIX MONTHS ENGE			
	Octo	ber 31, 2016	Octob	er 31, 2015
		(In thou	usands)	
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net income	\$	67,706	\$	26,878
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Depreciation and amortization		23,772		21,066
Loss on sale/disposition of assets		104		19
Provision for/(recoveries of) losses on notes and accounts receivable		308		(72)
Stock-based compensation expense		3,918		3,247
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:				
Accounts receivable		(3,538)		5,199
Inventories		(14,349)		(24,002)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		(2,775)		(587)
Income taxes		(9,676)		(10,700)
Accounts payable		1,111		(1,022)
Accrued payroll and incentives		(4,728)		5,872
Accrued profit sharing		(4,699)		(2,513)
Accrued expenses		4,235		989
Accrued warranty		116		(184)
Other assets		(183)		(156)
Other non-current liabilities		` 52 <sup>°</sup>		(1,273)
Net cash provided by operating activities		61,374		22,761
Cash flows from investing activities:		- /-	-	, - <u> </u>
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired		(178,059)		_
Refunds on machinery and equipment		5,083		4.222
Receipts from note receivable		43		41
Payments to acquire patents and software		(425)		(136)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment		( · /		61
Payments to acquire property and equipment		(23,312)		(18,352)
Net cash used in investing activities		(196,670)		(14,164)
Cash flows from financing activities:		(100,010)		(1.1,101)
Proceeds from loans and notes payable		50,000		105,000
Cash paid for debt issuance costs		(525)		(1,024)
Payments on capital lease obligation		(298)		(298)
Payments on notes payable		(28,150)		(101,575)
Proceeds from Economic Development Incentive Program		101		(101,070)
Proceeds from exercise of options to acquire common stock		948		1,758
Payment of employee withholding tax related to restricted stock units		(4,163)		(1,690)
Excess tax benefit of stock-based compensation		(1,100)		1,074
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities		17,913		3,245
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(117,383)		11,842
		191,279		42,222
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period		131,213	-	72,222

Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 73,896	\$ 54,064
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information	 	 
Cash paid for:		
Interest	\$ 3,802	\$ 9,271
Income taxes	42,609	24,936

## RECONCILIATION OF GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES TO NON-GAAP FINANCIAL MEASURES (Dollars in thousands, except per share data) (Unaudited)

	Fo	For the Three Months Ended			For the Six Months Ended				
	October 3		October 3		October 3		October 3	31, 2015	
	<b>\$</b>	% of Sales	\$	% of Sales	\$	% of Sales	\$	% of Sales	
GAAP gross profit Fair value inventory step-up	\$ 97,605	41.8%	\$56,215	39.2%	\$185,174	42.0%	\$115,085	39.5%	
and backlog expense Discontinued operations	3,824	1.6%	_ _	_	3,824	0.9%	— 52	— 0.0%	
Non-GAAP gross profit	\$101,429	43.4%	\$56,215	39.2%	\$188,998	42.9%	\$115,137	39.6%	
GAAP operating expenses	\$ 45,454	19.5%	\$34,433	24.0%	\$ 80,498	18.3%	\$ 63,485	21.8%	
Amortization of acquired intangible assets	(4,566)	-2.0%	(2,656)	-1.9%	(7,110)	-1.6%	(4,729)	-1.6%	
TCA accessories transition costs	<u> </u>	_	(70)	0.0%	<u> </u>	_	(151)	-0.1%	
Discontinued operations DOJ/SEC costs including	(23)	0.0%	(24)	0.0%	(44)	0.0%	(45)	0.0%	
insurance recovery costs Acquisition-related costs	— (1,824)	-0.8%	<u> </u>		(3,156)	-0.7%	1,791 —	0.6%	
Non-GAAP operating expenses	\$ 39,041	16.7%	\$31,683	22.1%	\$ 70,188	15.9%	\$ 60,351	20.7%	
GAAP operating income	\$ 52,151	22.3%	\$21,782	15.2%	\$104,676	23.8%	\$ 51,600	17.7%	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense	3,824	1.6%	_	_	3,824	0.9%	_	_	
Amortization of acquired intangible assets TCA accessories transition	4,566	2.0%	2,656	1.9%	7,110	1.6%	4,729	1.6%	
costs	_	_	70	0.0%	_	_	151	0.1%	
Discontinued operations DOJ/SEC costs including	23	0.0%	24	0.0%	44	0.0%	97	0.0%	
insurance recovery costs Acquisition-related costs	1,824	0.8%			3,156	0.7%	(1,791)	-0.6% 	
Non-GAAP operating income	\$ 62,388	26.7%	\$24,532	17.1%	\$118,810	27.0%	\$ 54,786	18.8%	
GAAP net income Bond premium paid	\$ 32,483 —	13.9% —	\$12,466 —	8.7% —	\$ 67,706 —	15.4% —	\$ 26,878 2,938	9.2% 1.0%	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense	3,824	1.6%	_	_	3,824	0.9%	_	_	
Amortization of acquired intangible assets Debt extinguishment costs TCA accessories transition	4,566 —	2.0% —	2,656 —	1.9% —	7,110 —	1.6% —	4,729 1,723	1.6% 0.6%	
costs Discontinued operations DOJ/SEC costs including	 23	0.0%	70 24	0.0% 0.0%	 44	— 0.0%	151 97	0.1% 0.0%	
insurance recovery costs Acquisition-related costs	 1,824	0.8%	_ _	_ _	 3,156	— 0.7%	(1,791) —	-0.6% —	
Tax effect of non-GAAP adjustments	(3,583)	-1.5%	(1,021)	-0.7%	(4,611)	-1.0%	(2,903)	-1.0%	
Non-GAAP net income	\$ 39,137	16.8%	\$14,195	9.9%	\$ 77,229	17.5%	\$ 31,822	10.9%	

GAAP net income per share -				
diluted	\$ 0.57	\$ 0.22	\$ 1.18	\$ 0.48
Bond premium paid	_	_	_	0.05
Fair value inventory step-up				
and backlog expense	0.07	_	0.07	_
Amortization of acquired				
intangible assets	0.08	0.05	0.12	0.09
Debt extinguishment costs	_	<del>_</del>	_	0.03
TCA accessories transition				
costs	_	<del>_</del>	_	_
Discontinued operations	_	_	_	_
DOJ/SEC costs including				
insurance recovery costs	_	<del>_</del>	_	(0.03)
Acquisition-related costs	0.03	_	0.06	_
Tax effect of non-GAAP				
adjustments	(0.06)	(0.02)	(0.08)	(0.05)
Non-GAAP net income per share				
- diluted	<u>\$ 0.68</u> (a)	\$ 0.25	<u>\$ 1.35</u>	\$ 0.57

<sup>(</sup>a) Non-GAAP net income per share does not foot due to rounding.

## SMITH & WESSON HOLDING CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF NET OPERATING CASH FLOW TO FREE CASH FLOW (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended				For the Six Months Ended					
	October 31, 2016		October 31, 2016 October 31, 2015		October 31, 2016		ctober 31, 2015 October 31, 2016 (		Octobe	r 31, 2015
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$	20,764	\$	6,136	\$	61,374	\$	22,761		
Net cash used in investing activities		(185,555)		(7,075)		(196,670)		(14, 164)		
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired		178,059		_		178,059		_		
Receipts from note receivable		(22)		(20)		(43)		(41)		
Free cash flow	\$	13,246	\$	(959)	\$	42,720	\$	8,556		

# SMITH & WESSON HOLDING CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF GAAP NET INCOME TO NON-GAAP ADJUSTED EBITDAS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

	For the Three Months Ended				
	October 31, 2016		October 31, 20		
GAAP net income	\$	32,483	\$	12,466	
Interest expense		2,313		2,323	
Income tax expense		17,463		7,015	
Depreciation and amortization		12,384		9,818	
Stock-based compensation expense		2,126		1,702	
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense		3,824		_	
Acquisition-related costs		1,824		_	
Discontinued operations		23		24	
TCA accessories transition costs		_		70	
DOJ/SEC costs, including insurance recovery costs				(20)	
Non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDAS	\$	72,440	\$	33,398	

# SMITH & WESSON HOLDING CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES RECONCILIATION OF GAAP NET INCOME TO NON-GAAP ADJUSTED EBITDAS (In thousands) (Unaudited)

		For Six Months Ended					
	Octobe	October 31, 2016		r 31, 2015			
GAAP net income	\$	67,706	\$	26,878			
Interest expense		4,367		9,573			
Income tax expense		32,752		15,214			
Depreciation and amortization		22,488		18,817			

Non-GAAP Adjusted EBITDAS	\$ 138,255	\$ 72,186
DOJ/SEC costs, including insurance recovery costs	<u> </u>	 (1,791)
TCA accessories transition costs	_	_
Discontinued operations	44	97
Acquisition-related costs	3,156	151
Fair value inventory step-up and backlog expense	3,824	
Stock-based compensation expense	3,918	3,247

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