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News Release

For Immediate Release

CPR Tools Inc. Named 2014 Florida Companies to Watch Winner *Award Presented by GrowFL, in Association with the Edward Lowe Foundation* *Honors Upcoming Second-Stage Businesses throughout Florida*

(Hendry County, Fla.) CPR Tools Inc. is proud to be selected as one of fifty leading second-stage companies selected from more than 500 nominations statewide, as this year's *Florida Companies to Watch*SM winners. All 2014 winners will join an esteemed group of 150 Florida alumni honored over the past three years.

Florida Companies to Watch
Presented by GrowFL, in association with the Edward Lowe Foundation
Thursday, October 23, 2014
6:00 pm
Hard Rock Live, CityWalk
Orlando, Florida

Florida Companies to Watch is an awards program that celebrates privately held second-stage companies headquartered in the state. To be eligible, applicants must employ between 6 and 99 full-time equivalent employees and have between \$750,000 and \$50 million in annual revenue or working capital in place. Awardees are selected for demonstrating the intent and capacity to grow based on employee or sales growth, exceptional entrepreneurial leadership, sustainable competitive advantage, outstanding corporate culture, inspired community giving and other notable strengths.

"*Florida Companies to Watch* is honored to recognize another outstanding group of stage-two companies," said Dr. Tom O'Neal, executive director of the Florida Economic Gardening Institute and associate vice president for the University of Central Florida's Office of Research and Commercialization. This is our fourth year of celebrating second-stage business leaders throughout the state of Florida. The companies selected for the *Florida Companies to Watch* awards program stand out among their peers as companies that should be celebrated. In Florida, they account for 5 percent of the companies and nearly 30 percent of the jobs. These companies make a difference and we're happy to offer the recognition they deserve."

"Thank you to Dr. O'Neal and the folks at the Florida Economic Gardening Institute. Everyone at CPR Tools is honored to have received the *Florida Companies to Watch* award. We love Hendry County, Florida and want to continue to grow with it" said John Benkert, Chief Executive Officer of CPR Tools.

"We are proud to have CPR Tools headquartered in Hendry County" states Gregg Gillman, President of the Hendry County EDC. "CPR Tools is more than just a successful business. John and Sue Benkert and their employees are engaged and supportive of many organizations. They are not only growing their own company, they are helping to grow Hendry County."

Florida Companies to Watch is unique because of its focus on second-stage companies and the wide-ranging industries they represent. The impact of these companies on Florida's economy is immense, and this year's honorees are examples of such companies in the state. Overall, the 2014 winners had \$370 million in total annual revenue in 2013, which was a 36 percent increase in total annual revenue compared to 2012. They employed 1,757 full-time equivalent employees, with 462 net new jobs projected for 2014.

2014 Sponsors include Wells Fargo, TWSquared, University of Central Florida, Florida High Tech Corridor, atLarge, Inc., Carlton Fields Jordan Burt, Filmscape, OUC, AMTIS Inc., Enterprise Florida, Fifth Third Bank, Florida Power & Light, Insperity, LSQ Funding, Sorensen Moving & Storage, SunTrust, USF Connect. For more details on Florida Companies to Watch, visit fctw.growfl.com or email info@growfl.com. Sponsorships for the 2014 event are still available.

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About CPR Tools

Originally founded in 1987 CPR Tools, Inc. has been at the forefront of the data recovery and data security industries for over two decades. In that time, the company has developed many of the methods and techniques used by engineers all over the world. On the data security front CPR Tools is committed to ending data breaches and educating individuals and organizations on how best to dispose of their electronic data storage products. The company has been at the forefront of end-of-life data security requirements and continues to promote not only secure destruction legislation but to ensure that the techniques are environmentally friendly 'green' solutions.

<http://www.cprtools.com>

About GrowFL:

GrowFL was created in 2009 by the Florida legislature as an economic development program focused on assisting second-stage growth companies prosper in the state of Florida. By providing strategies, resources and support to second-stage companies for next level growth through Strategic Research and peer-to-peer CEO mentoring, GrowFL helps companies overcome obstacles to growth and leads them towards prosperity. Based on the philosophy of Economic Gardening®—to grow existing businesses in a community, region or state—GrowFL, the Florida Economic Gardening Institute, is a critical component to the state's economic development strategy and Florida's entrepreneurial ecosystem. GrowFL is a statewide economic development organization certified by the National Center for Economic Gardening through the Edward Lowe Foundation. Website: growfl.com