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TIME AND ALLY FINANCIAL HONOR HALES CORNERS DEALER

Jerome J. Holz Wins National Recognition for Community Service
and Industry Accomplishments at NADA Convention

(New York, NY, October 22, 2012) – The nomination of Jerome J. Holz, owner/president of Holz Motors, Inc., a Chevrolet dealership in Hales Corners, Wisconsin, for the 2013 TIME Dealer of the Year award was announced today by TIME.

Holz is one of a select group of 57 dealer nominees from across the country who will be honored at the 96th annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Convention & Exposition in Orlando, Florida, on February 9, 2013. The announcement of this year’s nominees was made by Todd Larsen, executive vice president and group president, Time Inc. News and Sports, and Tim Russi, executive vice president, North American Auto Operations, for Ally Financial.

“Auto dealers play such an important role in the strength of local communities across the United States,” said Russi. “They are involved in many philanthropic endeavors, contributing their time and money to improving the lives of people in need. Ally is proud to support and honor these extraordinary dealers and the important roles they play in making their communities better places to live and work,” added Russi.

In its second year as exclusive sponsor, Ally will recognize dealer nominees and their community efforts by contributing \$1,000 to each nominee’s charity of choice. Nominees will also be recognized on the recently launched website, **AllyDealerHeroes.com**, which highlights the philanthropic contributions and achievements of auto dealers across the U.S.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry’s most prestigious and highly coveted honors. Recipients are among the nation’s most successful auto dealers who also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. Holz, 85, was chosen to represent the Wisconsin Automobile & Truck Dealers Association in the national competition – one of only 57 auto dealers from 17,000 nationwide – nominated for the 44th annual award. The award is sponsored by TIME in association with Ally Financial, and in cooperation with NADA. A panel of faculty members from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan will select one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year.

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“We pride ourselves on our integrity,” nominee Holz said. “We have sold and serviced vehicles for generations of families. Their loyalty has made us what we are today.”

And that legacy began in 1914 when Holz’s father opened Krit & Imperial Autos and signed a franchise agreement with Chevrolet in 1915, the first Chevrolet dealership to open in Wisconsin, according to Holz. “I grew up in the apartment above the dealership,” he reminisced. “I pumped gas, greased cars and swept floors. I pitched in wherever and whenever needed.”

He graduated from Solomon Juneau High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in 1944, and attended Michigan State University in Lansing. He also served in the military, delivering gasoline and supplies in Germany, France and Belgium after the war. By age 30, he was dealer/principal at Holz Motors. “I’ve worn every hat possible in the automobile business,” he said. The company is looking forward to its 100th anniversary in 2014.

“I enjoy being in charge of a dealership,” Holz explained. “Where else could I meet so many people, hire and manage good co-workers and look forward to going to work each day?” It is that strong connection to the local community that has inspired Holz and his two daughters to be enthusiastic supporters of area causes. They formed the Holz Family Foundation in 1996 to donate to numerous organizations and charities, including the Milwaukee County Zoo, After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, St. Mary’s Food Pantry (matched donations given by employees), St. Mary Catholic Faith Community, Catholic Memorial High School, Jewish Family Services, Christ Lutheran School and the Salvation Army.

An example of the foundation’s philanthropic creativity is a new interactive exhibit that Holz Motors is sponsoring at the Betty Brinn Children’s Museum, opening in February of 2013. The hands-on activity center will allow kids to inspect an engine, match parts and change tires to teach them about science, technology, engineering and math.

Despite the huge impact Holz makes on the community, it is the small victories that move him most. After an employee was concerned about her daughter’s learning issues, Holz put her in contact with the Masonic Learning Center for Children, an organization he supports, where the child was found to be dyslexic. “She is now a junior in high school and has just been accepted into the National Honor Society,” he said. “We are proud to support this center that has helped so many children.”

Holz was nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year Award by William Sepic, president of the Wisconsin Automobile & Truck Dealers Association. He and his late wife, Dorothy, have two children and two grandchildren.

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