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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Universal Lighting Technologies Celebrates 70 Years in Business

Lighting leader reaches milestone anniversary with focus on continued growth

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Mar. 1, 2017) – Universal Lighting Technologies, Inc., a global leader in commercial lighting and a member of the Panasonic Group, this year celebrates its 70th anniversary in the industry. In 1947, the company was founded as Universal Manufacturing Company and became one of the first manufacturers of fluorescent ballasts in North America. Today, it is known as a global lighting industry innovator committed to quality and customer service.

Building an Industry Leader

“Universal began during a time when America was modernizing and electrifying at a staggering pace,” said Mark Verheyen, President & CEO of Universal Lighting Technologies and President of Panasonic Lighting Americas. “Since then, we and our predecessors have striven to continuously provide reliable products and dependable services, and as a result our brands are well known and respected throughout the industry.”

Universal has grown from being a pioneer in magnetic ballasts in its early days to a top provider of electronic ballasts and a market leader in the design, development and distribution of high quality ballast and LED products today. More than half of Universal’s manufacturing facility is dedicated to the production of LED components, allowing the company to stay ahead of a rapidly evolving industry.

Today’s Panasonic Operation

The Panasonic Group acquired Universal Lighting Technologies to be its North American flagship for commercial lighting in 2007. In 2010, the North American operation of Vossloh-Schwabe, another company in the Panasonic lighting family, was merged into Universal.

“As a part of Panasonic, Universal is backed by a culture of innovation and success, and continues to answer the call for tomorrow’s lighting products,” said Verheyen. “With the support of our world-class research and development teams, Universal drives the industry forward with advanced energy-saving designs and production strategies.”

Verheyen, who joined Universal as President and CEO in 2016, has led the expansion of tier one growth over the past two decades for a multitude of worldwide industrial electronics companies.

“Universal’s highly skilled team of manufacturing engineers and technicians relentlessly explore technologies that deliver lighting solutions to exceed our customer’s unique challenges,” said Verheyen. “We are focused on finding innovative ways to produce and deliver quality products. Universal’s focus on operational excellence begins from conceptual

design to volume manufacturing.”

Innovative Leaders of Tomorrow

Universal Lighting Technologies has been awarded more than 150 patents, and today remains on the forefront of technologies to meet or exceed efficiency requirements.

“For seven decades Universal has been on the leading edge of technology revolutions—from magnetic to electric ballasts, and more recently from fluorescent to LED,” continued Verheyen. “We strive for pitch perfect voice of the customer resonating within every unit we produce, because perfect product quality, delivered on time, is our mission statement.”

Along with the most comprehensive product offerings and high quality North American manufacturing, Universal operates 15 regional agent stocking warehouses including an Ontario warehouse in Canada, and five Regional Distribution Centers, enabling the company to provide its more than 3,000 distributor partners with everything from compact fluorescent, linear fluorescent and HID ballasts to control and dimming systems, as well as an expanding line of LED retrofit solutions. The company’s products are marketed worldwide under the Universal®, EVERLINE®, Triad®, and Vossloh-Schwabe® brand names.

“Universal’s sales support, customer loyalty and innovation are a rare combination that has helped set our company apart in a competitive marketplace,” said Willis Milner, principal at United Electrical Sales, LTD, an agent which began distributing Universal products in 1958. “With the innovative line of products like the LED Retrofit Kit, Diversa Sensors and the outdoor LED Sign Tubes, our distributor customers can easily access top-of-the-line solutions in their local markets for nearly any application.”

About Panasonic Lighting Americas, Inc.

Panasonic Lighting Americas, Inc., a subsidiary of the Panasonic Group, operates Universal Lighting Technologies, Inc. and Douglas Lighting Controls, two market leaders in the industry. Together, Douglas and Universal provide customers with the most advanced lighting controls and LED components available today.

About Universal Lighting Technologies, Inc.

Seventy years ago, Nashville, Tennessee-based Universal Lighting Technologies was founded and became one of the first companies to manufacture fluorescent ballasts. Today, Universal engineers LED solutions for commercial lighting applications as well as linear fluorescent, compact fluorescent, HID, and eHID components. The company is regarded across the North American lighting industry as an industry leader through its commitment to innovation, quality and customer service.

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