

Lincoln Electric Named One of the 2018 World's Most Ethical Companies® by the Ethisphere Institute Monday, February 12, 2018 09:30:00 PM (GMT)

CLEVELAND, Feb. 12, 2018 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Lincoln Electric Holdings Inc., (NASDAQ:LECO) has been recognized by the Ethisphere Institute, a global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices, as one of the [2018 World's Most Ethical Companies](#).

Lincoln Electric has been recognized as one of only two honorees in the Machine Tools & Accessories industry, underscoring their commitment to leading with integrity and prioritizing ethical business practices.

In 2018, 135 honorees were recognized, spanning 23 countries and 57 industries. The twelfth class of honorees had record levels of involvement with their stakeholders and their communities around the world. Measuring and improving culture, leading authentically and committing to transparency, diversity and inclusion were all priorities for honorees.

"We are honored to receive this recognition," said Christopher L. Mapes, chairman, president and CEO of Lincoln Electric. "Lincoln Electric was founded on the 'Golden Rule' and leads with integrity as a core value that guides our team, our '2020 Vision and Strategy' and our commitment to excellence in everything we do."

"While the discourse around the world changed profoundly in 2017, a stronger voice emerged. Global corporations operating with a common rule of law are now society's strongest force to improve the human condition. This year we saw companies increasingly finding their voice. The World's Most Ethical Companies in particular continued to show exemplary leadership," explained Ethisphere's CEO, Timothy Erblach. "I congratulate everyone at Lincoln Electric for being recognized as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies."

Methodology & Scoring

The World's Most Ethical Companies assessment is based upon the Ethisphere Institute's [Ethics Quotient®](#) (EQ) framework, which offers a quantitative way to assess a company's performance in an objective, consistent and standardized manner. The information collected provides a comprehensive sampling of definitive criteria of core competencies rather than all aspects of corporate governance, risk, sustainability, compliance and ethics.

Scores are generated in five key categories: ethics and compliance program (35 percent), corporate citizenship and responsibility (20 percent), culture of ethics (20 percent), governance (15 percent) and leadership, innovation and reputation (10 percent). All companies that participate in the assessment process receive their scores, providing them with valuable insights into how they stack up against leading organizations.

About Lincoln Electric

Lincoln Electric is the world leader in the design, development and manufacture of arc welding products, robotic arc welding systems, plasma and oxyfuel cutting equipment and has a leading global position in the brazing and soldering alloys market. Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, Lincoln has 63 manufacturing locations, including operations and joint ventures in 23 countries and a worldwide network of distributors and sales offices covering more than 160 countries. For more information about Lincoln Electric and its products and services, visit the Company's website at www.lincolnelectric.com.

About the Ethisphere Institute

The Ethisphere® Institute is the global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices that fuel corporate character, marketplace trust and business success. Ethisphere has deep expertise in measuring and defining core ethics standards using data-driven insights that help companies enhance corporate character and measure and improve culture. Ethisphere honors superior achievement through its World's Most Ethical Companies recognition program and provides a community of industry experts with the Business Ethics Leadership Alliance (BELA). More information about Ethisphere can be

found at: <https://ethisphere.com>.

Contact

Amanda Butler
Vice President, Investor Relations & Communications
Tel: 216.383.2534
Email: Amanda_Butler@lincolnelectric.com



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