Northwestern Mutual recognized as one of the best work places for LGBT equality

Company receives perfect score on Human Rights Campaign's Corporate Equality Index 2015

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 2, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Northwestern Mutual received a perfect score of 100 percent in the newly released Corporate Equality Index (CEI) 2015 survey. This is the 13th edition of the Human Rights Campaign CEI, and the first year Northwestern Mutual received a perfect score, following back-to-back 90 percent scores in 2013 and 2014.

"We are honored to receive a perfect CEI score and proud to be one of 366 businesses nationwide to have received the recognition of 100 percent," said Todd O. Zinkgraf, Northwestern Mutual vice president, Enterprise Solutions and executive sponsor of the company's LGBTA employee resource group. "I think I can speak on behalf of all participants that although we are pleased to see record scores in 2015, we all look forward to the day where equality is offered to everyone in the workplace and surveys like CEI will no longer be needed."

CEI is the premiere national benchmarking survey and report on corporate policies and practices related to LGBT workplace equality. The CEI rates companies on detailed criteria in these categories:

Non-discrimination policies
Employment benefits
Demonstrated organizational competency and accountability around LGBT diversity and inclusion
Public commitment to LGBT equality
Responsible citizenship

Wisconsin had 14 companies ranked on the equality index. Northwestern Mutual joined five other companies with a perfect 100 score; four scored 80 percent or above and the average rating was 79 percent.

For more information on the 2015 Corporate Equality Index or to download a copy of the report, visithttp://www.hrc.org/

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Northwestern Mutual has been helping families and businesses achieve financial security for nearly 160 years. Our financial representatives build relationships with clients through a distinctive planning approach that integrates risk management with wealth accumulation, preservation and distribution. With more than $217 billion in assets, $26 billion in revenues and more than $1.5 trillion worth of life insurance protection in force, Northwestern Mutual delivers financial security to more than 4.2 million people who rely on us for insurance and investment solutions, including life, disability insurance and long-term care insurance; annuities; trust services; mutual funds; and investment advisory products and services.

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For further information: John Gardner, mediarelations@nortwesternmutual.com, 800-323-7033

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