



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Three Major U.S. Hardware Cooperatives Recognize Compass Minerals as Vendor of the Year**

*For first time, Ace Hardware Corp., True Value Company and Do it Best Corp. all bestow awards on Compass Minerals in same year.*

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. (April 13, 2015) – The country’s three leading hardware cooperatives – Ace Hardware Corp., True Value Company and Do it Best Corp. – recently named Compass Minerals their 2014 Lawn and Garden Vendor or Supplier of the Year. It’s the first time all three major hardware chains have honored Compass Minerals in the same year with the awards, which recognize the salt company’s exceptional customer service and deicing products.

“We have worked with many of these hardware co-ops and stores for more than 25 years, delivering superior deicing products when and where they need them,” said Bob Harper, vice president of the Consumer and Industrial Salt Division at Compass Minerals. “We’re pleased that Ace, True Value and Do it Best all cited the same reasons for singling out Compass Minerals for these awards: high fulfillment rates and inventory turns, plus far better-than-expected sales of our products.”

Ace Hardware’s Vendor of the Year, True Value’s Supplier of the Year and Do it Best’s Vendor of the Year awards go to companies that help retail stores increase sales of high-quality products. The awards also recognize recipients for easing supply-chain logistics and providing exceptional customer service.

“Ace, True Value and Do it Best bestow these accolades only to suppliers that exceed service and performance expectations,” said Rob Peterson, business director – deicing. “Compass Minerals is committed to superior fulfillment, and we’re proud to be recognized by all of the leading U.S. hardware retailers at once.”

Compass Minerals supplies Ace, True Value and Do it Best with a broad line of deicers, including Safe Step<sup>®</sup> residential ice melters. All Compass Minerals deicing products are proven safe and effective at clearing ice from driveways and sidewalks in a variety of weather conditions.

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Retailers and consumers alike rely on Compass Minerals for a full array of winter safety products, from economical rock salt to premium magnesium chloride-based products that are environmentally friendly and safe for pets and families. Compass Minerals also offers blended products for increased melting power.

**About Compass Minerals**

[Compass Minerals](http://www.compassminerals.com) is a leading provider of essential minerals that provide solutions to nature's challenges, including salt for winter roadway safety and other consumer, industrial and agricultural uses, and specialty plant nutrition minerals that improve the quality and yield of crops. The company produces its minerals at locations throughout the United States and Canada and in the U.K. For more information about Compass Minerals and its products, please visit [www.compassminerals.com](http://www.compassminerals.com).

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