

[Hecla Mining Company](#)'s (NYSE:HL) is pleased to announce that President and CEO, Phillips S. Baker, Jr., was presented with the William Lawrence Saunders Gold Medal Award from the Society of Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) at the SME 2017 Annual Conference & Expo in Denver, Colorado, this week. This award recognizes Mr. Baker's exceptional leadership by positioning Hecla Mining Company with the highest silver reserves in its 125-year history and his significant contribution to the mining industry.

Clayr Alexander, Vice President and General Manager of the Lucky Friday mine in northern Idaho, was selected as the 2016 recipient of the M&E Division Miner of the Year Award from SME. The award recognizes Mr. Alexander for his success at pioneering tunnel boring and his successful career in leadership in underground mining. The award recognizes significant contributions of a mine site leader who is able to manage production, people, community, safety, and be a good steward of the environment.

"I am honored to be recognized by SME with this award," said Phillips S. Baker, Jr., President and CEO. He added, "congratulations to Clayr on receiving his prestigious Miner of the Year award. We believe innovation is the key to future success in the mining industry and these awards recognize our continuing efforts."

## ABOUT HECLA

Founded in 1891, [Hecla Mining Company](#) (NYSE:HL) is a leading low-cost U.S. silver producer with operating mines in Alaska, Idaho and Mexico, and is a growing gold producer with an operating mine in Quebec, Canada. The Company also has exploration and pre-development properties in seven world-class silver and gold mining districts in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, and an exploration office and investments in early-stage silver exploration projects in Canada.

## Cautionary Statements Regarding Forward Looking Statements

Statements made or information provided in this news release that are not historical facts are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 and "forward-looking information" within the meaning of Canadian securities laws. Words such as "may," "will," "should," "expects," "intends," "projects," "believes," "estimates," "targets," "anticipates" and similar expressions are used to identify these forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements or forward-looking information include statements or information regarding estimates of silver production for 2016 on a consolidated basis and at each of the Greens Creek, Lucky Friday and San Sebastian mines, annual gold production for 2016 at Casa Berardi, and fourth quarter 2016 production. The material factors or assumptions used to develop such forward-looking statements or forward-looking information include that the Company's plans for development and production will proceed as expected and will not require revision as a result of risks or uncertainties, whether known, unknown or unanticipated, to which the Company's operations are subject.

Forward-looking statements involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected, anticipated, expected or implied. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, metals price volatility, volatility of metals production and costs, litigation, regulatory and environmental risks, operating risks, project development risks, political risks, labor issues, ability to raise financing and exploration risks and results. Refer to the Company's Form 10K and 10-Q reports for a more detailed discussion of factors that may impact expected future results. The Company undertakes no obligation and has no intention of updating forward-looking statements other than as may be required by law.

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