

W.W. Grainger, Inc. 100 Grainger Parkway Lake Forest, IL 60045-5201 www.grainger.com/investor

GRAINGER REPORTS JANUARY 2015 SALES RESULTS

CHICAGO, February 12, 2015 – Grainger (NYSE: GWW) today reported sales results for the month of January 2015. Daily sales increased 3 percent versus January 2014. Results for the month included 1 percentage point from acquisitions and a 2 percentage point decline from unfavorable foreign exchange. Excluding acquisitions and foreign exchange, organic sales increased 4 percent on a daily basis driven by 4 percentage points from volume and a 2 percentage point benefit from favorable comparability to the business disruptions in January 2014 due to the extreme weather. This increase was partially offset by a 2 percentage point decline from lower sales of seasonal products. January 2015 had 21 selling days, one fewer than in January 2014. The 2015 first quarter will have 63 selling days, the same number as the 2014 first quarter.

January Daily Sales by Segment 2015 v. 2014

United States	+4%
Canada +6% in local currency	-4%
Other Businesses +26% in local currency	+14%

Please visit <u>www.grainger.com/investor</u> to access a recorded message with additional details about January 2015 sales. Grainger is scheduled to report February sales on Thursday, March 12, 2015, at 8:00 a.m. EST.

W.W. Grainger, Inc., with 2014 sales of \$10.0 billion, is North America's leading broad line supplier of <u>maintenance</u>, <u>repair and operating products</u>, with operations also in Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Forward-Looking Statements

This document contains forward-looking statements under the federal securities law. Forward-looking statements relate to the company's expected future financial results and business plans, strategies and objectives and are not historical facts. They are generally identified by qualifiers such as "forecasting" or similar expressions. There are risks and uncertainties, the outcome of which could cause the company's results to differ materially from what is projected. The forward-looking statements should be read in conjunction with the company's most recent annual report, as well as the company's Form 10-K, Form 10-Q and other reports filed with the Securities & Exchange Commission, containing a discussion of the company's business and various factors that may affect it.

Contacts:

Media:

Joseph Micucci Director, Media Relations

O: 847-535-0879 M: 847-830-5328

Grainger Media Relations Hotline 847-535-5678

Investors:

Laura Brown SVP, Communications & Investor Relations

O: 847-535-0409 M: 847-804-1383

William Chapman

Sr. Director, Investor Relations

O: 847-535-0881 M: 847-456-8647

Casey Darby

Sr. Manager, Investor Relations

O: 847-535-0099 M: 847-964-3281