



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Ronald D. Miller, President and Managing Director  
Tel: 414-291-4528  
Email: [rmiller@clearygull.com](mailto:rmiller@clearygull.com)

**CLEARY GULL INC. ADVISES JOHNSON LEVEL & TOOL MFG. CO., INC. IN ITS  
SALE TO HULTAFORS GROUP AB**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 22, 2018** – Cleary Gull Inc. is pleased to announce that its client Johnson Level & Tool Mfg. Co., Inc. has been acquired by Hultafors Group, a subsidiary of Investment AB Latour. Cleary Gull acted as exclusive financial advisor to Johnson Level in this transaction.

Johnson Level ([www.johnsonlevel.com](http://www.johnsonlevel.com)), located in Mequon, Wisconsin, is the only U.S. based supplier offering a full spectrum of levels, lasers and layout tools and has built its reputation by offering Category Leadership, Product Authority and Award-Winning Customer Service.

Hultafors Group ([www.hultaforsgroup.com](http://www.hultaforsgroup.com)), headquartered in Goteborg, Sweden provides a portfolio of leading brands that keep professional users in the forefront in terms of functionality, safety and overall productivity. Excelling in brand-driven product categories within the industrial and construction equipment sectors, Hultafors offers customers and users a best-in-class experience.

Investment AB Latour ([www.latour.se](http://www.latour.se)), located in Goteborg, Sweden is a mixed investment company consisting primarily of wholly-owned industrial operations and an investment portfolio of listed holdings in which Latour is the principal owner or one of the principal owners.

The acquisition is part of Hultafors Group’s strategy to strengthen its presence in North America. Through the acquisition Hultafors Group will gain access to a wide network of distribution points in relevant sales channels in the United States, as well as a complete portfolio of levels, lasers and other construction measuring, marking and layout tools.

“Hultafors Group is a company which we have known for 30 years and we believe the long-term perspective and commitment that characterizes Hultafors Group will form an excellent foundation for further developing Johnson as a company for many years to come,” say Bill and Bob Johnson, previous owners of Johnson.

“No other company in the North American marketplace has a greater breadth of line, a deeper understanding of the tradesmen they serve or the channel partners with whom they work than Johnson” says the CEO at the Hultafors Group AB, Ole Kristian Jødahl. “We are extremely proud to be expanding our product portfolio with Johnson and are committed to expanding their portfolio with ours. This acquisition is part of our strategy to strengthen our presence in North America.”



### **About Cleary Gull**

Founded in 1987, Cleary Gull ([www.clearygull.com/ib](http://www.clearygull.com/ib)) is an independent investment banking firm advising privately held companies on middle market sales, divestitures, mergers and acquisitions, private debt and equity capital raises, and other transactions. Cleary Gull has extensive experience in the manufacturing, consumer, business & industrial services, and software and technology industries.