

## News Release

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## For Immediate Release

### **Ernst & Young announces Benchworks CEO Thad L. Bench, Sr. is an EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2015 Award finalist in the Maryland Region**

**CHESTERTOWN, MD, 5/7/15** – Ernst & Young (EY) announced that CEO Thad L. Bench, Sr. of [Benchworks](#) is a finalist for the [EY Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2015 Award](#) in the Maryland Region. The awards program recognizes entrepreneurs who demonstrate excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Thad Bench was selected as a finalist by a panel of independent judges. Award winners will be announced at a special gala event on Thursday, June 25, 2015, at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront.

Thad stated, “Being nominated as a finalist for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Award is a great honor. I am proud of the people we have brought together in our organization and am delighted to see their hard work and passion recognized by this prestigious nomination.”

Benchworks is a family of operating units that includes a full-service advertising agency, a product launch logistics center as well as a consulting group focused on commercialization planning for biotech companies.

Benchworks is a multichannel strategy and execution partner, providing end-to-end marketing services from traditional print marketing to cutting-edge digital technology. Benchworks makes

marketing happen graciously: by being responsible, accountable, flexible and tirelessly honest—creating innovative marketing programs that position their client partners for success. The team consists of excellent listeners, methodical strategists and nimble tacticians...and they use every ounce of those skills to ensure that their clients' brands grow.

Regional award winners are eligible for consideration for the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year National program. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the EY Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner, will be announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on November 14, 2015. The awards are the culminating event of the EY Strategic Growth Forum<sup>®</sup>, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies. Now in its 29<sup>th</sup> year, the program has expanded to recognize business leaders in more than 145 cities and in more than 60 countries throughout the world.

## **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by EY, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are nationally sponsored by the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and SAP America. In Maryland, regional program sponsors also include the *Baltimore Business Journal*, DLA Piper, PNC Bank and Smart CEO. Maryland reception sponsors include DTZ, Kelly Benefit Strategies and Randstad.

## **About Benchworks**

Benchworks, a comprehensive marketing services firm headquartered in Chestertown, MD, was founded in 1991. The company specializes in the design, production, and launch of complete marketing and branding services. Additional Benchworks operating units include Benchworks Consulting, [Safe Chain Solutions](#), and a licensed products division. Clients include a wide variety of companies in the pharmaceutical, beverage, manufacturing, marine, tourism, and education industries in North America and Europe.

## **About EY Entrepreneur Of The Year<sup>®</sup>**

EY Entrepreneur Of The Year is the world's most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The unique award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind,

Entrepreneur Of The Year celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 145 cities in more than 60 countries.

### **About EY's Strategic Growth Markets practice**

EY's Strategic Growth Markets (SGM) practice guides leading high-growth companies. Our multidisciplinary teams of elite professionals provide perspective and advice to help our clients accelerate market leadership. SGM delivers assurance, tax, transactions and advisory services to thousands of companies spanning all industries. EY is the undisputed leader in taking companies public, advising key government agencies on the issues impacting high-growth companies and convening the experts who shape the business climate. For more information, please visit us at [ey.com/us/strategicgrowthmarkets](http://ey.com/us/strategicgrowthmarkets), or follow news on Twitter [@EY\\_Growth](https://twitter.com/EY_Growth).

### **About EY**

EY is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. The insights and quality services we deliver help build trust and confidence in the capital markets and in economies the world over. We develop outstanding leaders who team to deliver on our promises to all of our stakeholders. In so doing, we play a critical role in building a better working world for our people, for our clients and for our communities.

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