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**HD Supply Waterworks Announces Brad Cowles as New COO**  
*Cowles to Drive Strategy and Operations with Technology Focus*

**ATLANTA – February 21, 2017** – HD Supply Waterworks, the nation’s largest distributor of water, sewer, storm and fire protection products, recently announced the appointment of Brad Cowles as its Chief Operating Officer (COO). Cowles’ current Waterworks Chief Information Officer (CIO) responsibilities will be expanded to include leadership of the company’s growth initiatives, business development, national accounts and marketing organizations. Cowles will report to Steve LeClair, president, HD Supply Waterworks.

“Brad’s extensive experience in growth investment, acquisitions and integration will be instrumental as we expand our footprint,” said LeClair. “Brad will help enhance and accelerate the development of our customer-facing applications and streamline growth investments across all customer channels we serve.”

Cowles’ leadership, specifically for Waterworks’ key initiatives of fusible pipe, treatment plant and metering will help to increase the company’s penetration of these customer segments, according to LeClair.

“Moving Brad into this role enables him to strategically address the opportunities unique to the Waterworks business, both locally and nationally,” LeClair added.

Since joining HD Supply in 2005, Cowles has held various IT-related roles of increasing responsibility in M&A, IT infrastructure and applications. He has served as the IT leader for three of HD Supply’s business units including his role as VP of Information Technology for Waterworks. Cowles has been the CIO of HD Supply since January 2015, and in 2016 was recognized as Georgia’s Enterprise CIO of the Year by the Georgia CIO Leadership Association. Previously, he spent 10 years with the Michelin Tire Corporation in various leadership roles in R&D, manufacturing and quality in both the United States and France. He holds both a master’s and a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Florida, where he graduated with high honors.

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**About HD Supply Waterworks**

HD Supply Waterworks ([www.hdswaterworks.com](http://www.hdswaterworks.com)) is the nation’s largest distributor of water, sewer, storm, fusible piping, and fire protection infrastructure products that serves the needs of both contractors and municipalities in various aspects of the water, wastewater, clean water, landfill, energy, and fire protection industries. HD Supply Waterworks operates more than 240 branches serving the United States, the Caribbean and international markets. HD Supply Waterworks is an operating division of HD Supply (NASDAQ: HDS) ([www.hdsupply.com](http://www.hdsupply.com)), a leading industrial distribution company, providing a broad range of products and services to professional customers in the maintenance, repair and operations, infrastructure and power, and specialty construction sectors.