



## THE HOME DEPOT EXPANDS REPORTING ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION AND DEFORESTATION EFFORTS

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ATLANTA, Sept. 15, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- The Home Depot®, the world's largest home improvement retailer, announced today it will prepare racial equity and deforestation assessments in response to shareholder proposals from the company's 2022 annual meeting of shareholders. These assessments will expand on the information previously shared in the company's annual Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) report on the progress of the company's diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs, sustainability and environmental efforts, and actions taken to combat deforestation. Both assessments will be conducted by a third-party firm with recognized expertise.



The Home Depot's ESG efforts include proactive initiatives and goals around three fundamental pillars: focus on its people, operate sustainably, and strengthen communities. The planned assessments will help the company benchmark its DEI and responsible forestry programs, highlight the ways the company is upholding its commitments, and potentially identify opportunities to enrich its efforts.

The Home Depot's Office of DEI leads the company's diversity reporting, which includes gender, ethnicity and pay equity data for the company's workforce. The company has numerous initiatives designed to increase the diversity of its workforce, promote inclusion, amplify support for diverse suppliers, and enrich the communities it serves. In 2020, the company added an explicit focus on equity to promote fairness, combat bias and ensure associates and business partners have access to the resources they need to succeed at work. In 2021, The Home Depot spent \$3.3 billion with Tier I diverse suppliers and recently announced a goal to spend \$5 billion annually by 2025. The Home Depot's U.S. workforce is consistently more ethnically diverse than the U.S. working population, based on U.S. Department of Labor data.

The Home Depot's sustainable forestry initiatives extend more than 25 years and reflect the company's recognition that responsible forest management is essential to protecting the health of the world's ecosystems, biodiversity, and the more than one billion people who depend on forests for their livelihoods. The company works with suppliers that adhere to set standards of forest management and tree species selection. To help protect endangered forests and support efforts to preserve timber for future generations, the company first issued its Wood Purchasing Policy in 1999. Since then, The Home Depot has continued to work to lead its suppliers to understand and practice sustainable

forestry throughout the world. The deforestation report, together with the company's plan to participate in the CDP forests survey, will provide greater transparency and highlight the company's efforts to ensure its sustainable forestry operations drive positive change.

The company expects to publicly release its reports on these assessments by the end of its fiscal 2023 year.

#### **ABOUT THE HOME DEPOT**

The Home Depot is the world's largest home improvement specialty retailer. At the end of the second quarter of fiscal year 2022, the company operated a total of 2,316 retail stores in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, 10 Canadian provinces and Mexico. The company employs approximately 500,000 associates. The Home Depot's stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE: HD) and is included in the Dow Jones industrial average and Standard & Poor's 500 index. The Home Depot is #17 on the 2022 Fortune 500.

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