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## **Chris Policinski Named 2014 Upper Midwest Master Entrepreneur of the Year by Ernst & Young**

MINNEAPOLIS, June 13, 2014 -- Land O'Lakes, Inc. President and CEO Chris Policinski was named the 2014 Master Entrepreneur of the Year in the Upper Midwest by Ernst & Young (EY). EY's program is the world's most prominent business award, and currently celebrates business leaders in 145 cities across 60 different countries around the world. This is EY's 28<sup>th</sup> year of recognizing inspiring people and their contributions, specifically innovative entrepreneurs who show success in financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and surrounding communities.

"It's a great honor to accept this award, but the true champion of entrepreneurship at Land O'Lakes is our dedicated workforce who contribute their efforts each day to bring our vision to reality," said Policinski. "Their innovative thinking drives great work that is helping to feed a growing global population and positively impacting the world in many ways."

The Upper Midwest region of the program encompasses Minnesota, the Dakotas, Iowa and Nebraska-based companies. This year, the program's finalists together generated more than \$2.5 billion in revenue and made available over 6,500 jobs in 2013.

As an Upper Midwest award winner, Policinski is now eligible for the 2014 Entrepreneur of the Year national program, which will be announced at EY's annual award gala in Palm Springs, California on November 15, 2014. 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.

### **About EY**

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***About Land O'Lakes, Inc.***

*Land O'Lakes, Inc., one of America's premier agribusiness and food companies, is a member-owned cooperative with industry-leading operations that span the spectrum from farm production to consumer foods. With 2013 annual sales of more than \$14 billion, Land O'Lakes is one of the nation's largest cooperatives, ranking 199 on the Fortune 500. Building on a legacy of more than 93 years of operation, Land O'Lakes today operates some of the most respected brands in agribusiness and food production including LAND O LAKES® Dairy Foods, Purina Animal Nutrition and WinField. The company does business in all 50 states and more than 60 countries. Land O'Lakes, Inc., corporate headquarters are located in Arden Hills, Minn.*