

## News Release

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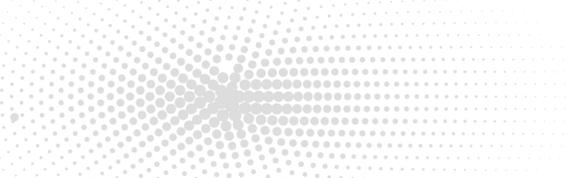
## For Immediate Release

### **EY announces David Lefever of The Mako Group As Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2017 Award finalist in Ohio Valley**

**Indianapolis, May 9, 2017** – EY today announced that David Lefever, Chief Executive Officer of The Mako Group, is a finalist for the Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2017 Award in the Ohio Valley region. The awards program, which is celebrating its 31st year, recognizes entrepreneurs who are excelling in areas such as innovation, financial performance and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. David was selected as a finalist by a panel of independent judges. Award winners will be announced at a special gala event on June 15 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cincinnati.

“It is a true honor to be included as a finalist amongst the list of successful entrepreneurs for this well-known award,” said Lefever. “Over the past 7 years, together with my team, we’ve worked relentlessly to create an honest company that continuously focuses on putting our clients’ security first when helping protect them from cyber threats and ensuring they have peace of mind at the end of the day. It was a vision I had from the very beginning and I’m extremely proud of the dedication from everyone involved in getting us this far.”

The Mako Group, a cyber risk management consultancy based out of Indianapolis, works with companies who are trying to solve the “cybersecurity” puzzle. By bypassing selling devices and offering monitoring services, The Mako Group is able to focus on their clients’ controls while developing partnerships, solving problems and preparing



them for the future. To date, The Mako Group serves as a guide and mentor to help get clients through the ever-changing threats of cyberspace, the strenuous demands of government regulations and the inevitable complexities of risk and audit.

Now in its 31st year, the program has expanded to recognize business leaders in over 145 cities and more than 60 countries throughout the world.

Regional award winners are eligible for consideration for the Entrepreneur Of The Year National competition. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Overall Award winner, will be announced at the Entrepreneur Of The Year National Awards gala in Palm Springs, California, on November 18, 2017. The awards are the culminating event of the Strategic Growth Forum™, the nation's most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies.

### **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by EY, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are nationally sponsored in the US by SAP America, Merrill Corporation and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. In Ohio Valley sponsors also include Frost Brown Todd, PNC Bank, Valuation Research Corporation (VRC), CincyTech, Cincinnati Business Courier, Columbus Business First and Louisville Business First.

### **About The Mako Group**

The Mako Group is a cyber risk management consultancy with offices in Chicago, Detroit, Fort Wayne and Indianapolis. The company specializes in cybersecurity, audit, risk and management advisory, and focuses on relationships, communication and strategic, individualized deliverables for their partners. By providing customized, high quality work using a combination of benchmarking and industry leading practices, The Mako Group reduces risk while creating peace of mind. For more information please visit [www.makopro.com](http://www.makopro.com).

### **About Entrepreneur Of The Year®**

Entrepreneur Of The Year®, founded by EY, is the world's most prestigious business awards program for entrepreneurs, chosen from an independent panel of judges including entrepreneurs and prominent leaders from business, finance, and the local community. The program 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 awards program 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 over 145 cities and more than 60 countries. [ey.com/eoy](http://ey.com/eoy)

### **About EY's Growth Markets Network**

EY's worldwide Growth Markets Network is dedicated to serving the changing needs of high-growth companies. For more than 30 years, we've helped many of the world's most dynamic and ambitious companies grow into market leaders. Whether working with international mid-cap companies or early stage, venture-backed businesses, our professionals draw upon their extensive experience, insight and global resources to help your business succeed. For more information, please visit us at [ey.com/sgm](http://ey.com/sgm) or follow news on Twitter @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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