

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Greg Duncan

Blue Heron Communications (800) 654-3766

E-mail: greg@blueheroncomm.com

## BLACKHAWK! Wins 2014 OpticsPlanet Brilliance Award for 'Holster Brand of the Year' and Experts Choice for 'Best Tactical Vest'

The annual OpticsPlanet Brilliance Awards named the BLACKHAWK!® holster line as the 2014 "Holster Brand of the Year" for the fourth consecutive year. In addition, the BLACKHAWK! Omega Elite™ Cross Draw/Pistol Mag Vest received the prestigious Experts Pick for "Best Tactical Vest." Customers and experts voted on the holster line and Omega Elite™ Cross Draw/Pistol Mag Vest for their high-quality construction, functionality and long track record of achievement in the field.

NORFOLK, Va. – November 19, 2014 – The BLACKHAWK!<sup>®</sup> line of holsters was recently named the 2014 "Holster Brand of the Year" as part of the annual OpticsPlanet Brilliance Awards. This is the fourth consecutive year that the BLACKHAWK! brand has received the award for "Holster Brand of the Year." The BLACKHAWK! Omega Elite™ Cross Draw/Pistol Mag Vest was also awarded the Experts Pick for "Best Tactical Vest."

The OpticsPlanet Brilliance Awards recognize outstanding products and brands that show exceptional quality, innovative design and dependability. Customers and product experts sort through tens of thousands of goods to choose the best product for each category. These awards serve as a seal of approval for consumers searching for products approved and trusted by their peers.

"OpticsPlanet launched the Brilliance Awards in 2008 to provide our customers with a clear set of benchmarks on which to judge the thousands of brands we carry," said Kelly Bertog, OpticsPlanet marketing communications manager. "With their relentless pursuit of making gear the right way, it is no surprise that BLACKHAWK! has once again taken home multiple Brilliance Awards honors. The brand's commitment to quality, innovation and, most importantly, the customers they serve make these awards very well earned."

BLACKHAWK! continues to lead the industry in innovation with its line of high-quality holsters for law enforcement members, military personnel and shooting enthusiasts. As part of the brand's pledge to listen to consumer's needs and bring innovative products to market, BLACKHAWK! recently launched the EPOCH™ Level 3 Light Bearing Duty Holster. The new holster features a thumb-activated release for single-phase operation and has been designed to accommodate multiple standard under-barrel pistol lights, such as the Streamlight® TLR-1 and TLR-2, the SureFire® X300 and X300 Ultra.

The Omega Elite Cross Draw/Pistol Mag Vest was chosen as the "Best Tactical Vest" for its versatility and durability. The vest offers operators four pistol mag pouches, three M4 mag pouches that can store up to six rifle mags, two internal map pouches, an accessory pouch and a cross-draw holster secured by adjustable side-release buckles.

For more information on BLACKHAWK! products, visit www.BLACKHAWK.com.