

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Stormcloud Brewing Company Honored as One of the 2016 "Michigan 50 Companies to Watch"

FRANKFORT, MI (March 17, 2016) - Stormcloud Brewing Company has been recognized as one of the 2016 "Michigan 50 Companies to Watch," an awards program presented by Michigan Celebrates Small Business.

Stormcloud Brewing Company will be honored at an awards ceremony during the twelfth annual Michigan Celebrates Small Business gala event, May 5, 2016 in Lansing.

With a focus on Belgian-style brewing, Stormcloud Brewing Company is an award-winning micro-brewery and pub located in the coastal city of Frankfort, in the northwest corner of Michigan's lower peninsula. Stormcloud offers 16 taps of handcrafted beer in its downtown pub, in addition to locally-produced cider, mead and wine. Currently, Stormcloud has secured partnerships to distribute its beer to restaurants and pubs within 33 Michigan counties. Stormcloud Brewing Company opened its doors in June 2013.

"We are a young company and this recognition is a great honor for everyone at Stormcloud," says Co-Owner Rick Schmitt. "Without the dedication and hard work of our employees, this award would not have been possible. My business partner, Stormcloud's Head Brewer Brian Confer, and I would like to thank all of our team members for working to help achieve this incredible distinction."

Companies making it to the "Michigan 50 Companies to Watch" list are a remarkable group of second-stage companies. Defined as having 6 to 99 full-time-equivalent employees and generating \$750,000 to \$50 million in annual revenue or working capital from investors or grants, these companies form the backbone of Michigan's economy. Representing all regions of the state and a diverse range of industries, companies like Stormcloud Brewing Company are known for their exceptional entrepreneurial leadership, creation of innovation or use of innovation in creative ways, and their sustainable competitive advantage.

Winners were selected by Michigan-based judges from the banking, economic development, entrepreneurship development, and venture capital communities.

Michigan 50 Companies to Watch is presented by Michigan Celebrates Small Business. Founding underwriters are the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, PNC Bank, Accident Fund Insurance Company of America, and Dynamic Edge, Inc.

Contributing Underwriters are Comcast Business Class, Consumers Energy, DTE Energy Foundation, Hungerford Nichols CPAs and Advisors, Edge Partners, Michigan Credit Union League & Affiliates, Rehmann, Michigan Business Network and Varnum Attorneys at Law.

Michigan Celebrates Small Business was founded by Michigan Small Business Development Center, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, U.S. Small Business Administration - Michigan, Edward Lowe Foundation, Chris Holman - Small Business Advocate, and the Small Business Association of Michigan.

Information about Michigan Celebrates Small Business can be found at www.MichiganCelebrates.biz.

Information about Stormcloud Brewing Company can be found at <a href="https://www.StormcloudBrewing.com">www.StormcloudBrewing.com</a>.

###