

## Harren Equity Partners Sponsors Recapitalization of Huskie Tools, Inc.

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Virginia, December 19, 2011 – Harren Equity Partners, a private equity firm dedicated to the lower middle market, is pleased to announce that it has completed the recapitalization of Huskie Tools, Inc., in partnership with management.

Huskie Tools is the leading supplier of professional-grade battery-powered and hydraulic ergonomic hand tools for industrial uses. Huskie provides branded and private label tools to end users, distributors and other original equipment manufacturers. Founded in 1976, and based in Glendale Heights, Illinois, the Company serves electrical utilities and other end markets. The Huskie Tools brand is renowned for its reliability and ergonomic design.

Thomas Itrich, Founder and Chairman, commented on the new partnership, "Nearly thirty five years to the day from when we first incorporated, we start a new chapter. The management team, with the support of Harren, will continue to build the legacy of Huskie Tools."

Loralee Pearson, a Huskie executive since 1993, was appointed President in conjunction with the recapitalization. "I am excited to take on this new role and to lead the ongoing effort to leverage our market position to gain share in additional end markets. All of us at Huskie are excited to work with Harren to continue to grow our business; they are the right partner for our culture and are set up to help us through this next stage of growth."

Harren Equity Partners is a Charlottesville, Virginia based private investment firm dedicated to the growth and development of industry-leading companies through the creation of strong partnerships with outstanding management teams. Harren's unique approach focuses on operational excellence and insightful strategic analysis, rather than financial engineering. The principals of Harren have significant operating experience and work closely with portfolio company management teams to continue to grow companies and improve profitability. Harren focuses on investment opportunities in the lower middle market, defined as companies with \$20 million to \$200 million of annual revenue, in a broad range of industries.

For more information about the transaction or Harren Equity Partners, please visit <u>www.harrenequity.com</u> or contact Thomas A. Carver or George M. Urban at 434.245.5800.