

GROUP 1 AUTOMOTIVE®

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP 1 AUTOMOTIVE REPORTS ON IMPACT OF HURRICANE HARVEY

All Houston and Beaumont Dealerships & Collision Centers Open to Assist Impacted Customers

HOUSTON, September 5, 2017 — **Group 1 Automotive, Inc.** (NYSE: GPI), (“Group 1” or the “Company”), an international, Fortune 500 automotive retailer, today announced it has completed a preliminary assessment of damages across its Texas dealerships in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

The Company’s top priority is supporting its nearly 3,000 employees in the greater Houston and Beaumont areas of Texas. Approximately 500 of our associates suffered significant property losses from flooding and storm damage. The Company is assisting these employees by providing disaster pay and further financial support from the Group 1 Foundation.

Despite damage to some facilities and inventory due to record-breaking flooding in the region, preliminary assessments indicate all facilities are intact and fully operational. Group 1’s Houston stores reopened on Wednesday, August 30, 2017. The Company’s Beaumont stores reopened on Thursday, August 31, 2017. Total damages associated with the storm are estimated at approximately \$15 million. This amount includes insurance deductibles for damaged inventory and facilities, disaster pay for employees, and financial support for team members whose homes flooded.

“Our top priority is supporting our employees in the areas affected by Hurricane Harvey. The size and scope of this disaster is almost beyond comprehension and the losses many of our employees and their family members have suffered is staggering. Our hearts go out to all of those affected by this devastating storm,” said Earl J. Hesterberg, Group 1’s president and chief executive officer. “Beyond helping our employees, we are also moving quickly to get our stores fully online to support the community’s needs for replacement vehicles. Through some extraordinary efforts by our team, we have all of our stores in both Houston and Beaumont open. And while we did sustain some inventory losses, given that we have over 15,000 units in stock in the impacted area, we are proud of the proactive efforts taken by our dealership teams that greatly protected our new and used inventory. Their actions preserved over 98 percent of our available inventory, which allows us to rapidly assist customers in need of replacement vehicles and service. The Company’s third quarter results will be impacted by both the non-recurring costs highlighted above, as well the impact of the business disruption for an entire week across the Houston region, which represents Group 1’s largest revenue-generating market.”

ABOUT GROUP 1 AUTOMOTIVE, INC.

Group 1 owns and operates 174 [automotive dealerships](#), 228 franchises, and 47 [collision centers](#) in the United States, the United Kingdom and Brazil that offer 32 brands of automobiles. Through its dealerships, the Company sells new and used cars and light trucks; arranges related vehicle financing; sells service contracts; provides automotive maintenance and repair services; and sells vehicle parts.

Investors please visit www.group1corp.com, www.group1auto.com, www.group1collision.com, www.facebook.com/group1auto, and www.twitter.com/group1auto, where Group 1 discloses additional information about the Company, its business, and its results of operations.

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which are statements related to future, not past, events and are based on our current expectations and assumptions regarding our business, the economy and other future conditions. In this context, the forward-looking statements often include statements regarding our goals, plans, projections and guidance regarding our financial position, results of operations, market position, pending and potential future acquisitions and business strategy, and often contain words such as “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “should,” “foresee,” “may” or “will” and similar expressions. While management believes that these forward-looking statements are reasonable as and when made, there can be no assurance that future developments affecting us will be those that we anticipate. Any such forward-looking statements are not assurances of future performance and involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in the statements. These risks and uncertainties include, among other things, (a) general economic and business conditions, (b) the level of manufacturer incentives, (c) the future

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regulatory environment, (d) our ability to obtain an inventory of desirable new and used vehicles, (e) our relationship with our automobile manufacturers and the willingness of manufacturers to approve future acquisitions, (f) our cost of financing and the availability of credit for consumers, (g) our ability to complete acquisitions and dispositions and the risks associated therewith, (h) foreign exchange controls and currency fluctuations, and (i) our ability to retain key personnel. For additional information regarding known material factors that could cause our actual results to differ from our projected results, please see our filings with the SEC, including our Annual Report on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Current Reports on Form 8-K. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date hereof. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements after the date they are made, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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Hurricane Harvey Impact

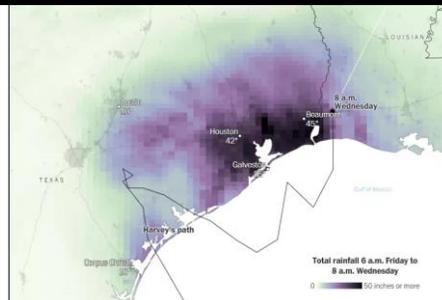


Hurricane Harvey

- Over four days, August 25-29, 2017, Hurricane Harvey rained an estimated 19 trillion gallons across Houston and Southeast Texas. Houston's Harris County rainfall totaled 1 trillion gallons of water—the same amount of water that flows over Niagara Falls in 15 days. Some portions of Southeast Texas received 50 inches of rain over the four day period.¹
- Houston emergency call services (911 calls) received 56,000 calls in just 15 hours over August 26-27th, which is seven times the normal daily average.²
- As of September 2nd, water being released from overflowing reservoirs are still threatening properties already inundated with flood water.³
- The number of estimated vehicles totaled as a result of the flooding varies from 300,000-1,000,000 units.⁴

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- Despite flooding, building closures, and highway closures, Group 1's management team gained access to corporate headquarters to begin confirmation of personnel safety and assessment of local dealerships.
- Of Group 1's 14,000 employees across the US, UK, and Brazil, approximately 3,000 employees were impacted in the greater Houston and Beaumont areas.
- Approximately 500 employees experienced some level of damage and financial hardship from flooding.
- The Company is assisting hurricane-impacted employees by providing disaster pay and further financial support from the Group 1 Foundation.
- Total damages to Group 1's real estate and inventory associated with the storm are estimated at approximately \$15 million.
- Group 1's deductible on new and used vehicle damage is \$10 million per event. The Company's flood insurance deductible is roughly \$500,000 per location in Harris County.
- In Houston and Beaumont, Group 1's 23 dealerships have 15,000+ new and used vehicle units in stock. Over 98% of this inventory was preserved by proactive risk planning & processes.
- Group 1's Houston stores reopened Wednesday, August 30, 2017. Group 1's Beaumont stores reopened Thursday, August 31, 2017.
- Third quarter results will be impacted by one-time costs and a week of business disruption across Houston, which is Group 1's largest revenue-generating market.
- **All of Group 1's Houston and Beaumont dealerships are open for business.**



Sources: ¹Washington Post, "Harvey Unloaded 33 Trillion Gallons of Water in the U.S." Article; ²Houston Office of Emergency Management; ³Houston Mayor, Sylvester Turner; ⁴Cox Automotive, Black Book.

Photo Credits (from top to bottom): Washington Post; David J. Phillip, AP; Brett Coomer, Houston Chronicle; Mark Mulligan, Houston Chronicle via AP; Joe Raedle, Getty Images; Charlie Riedel, AP.