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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Ernie Ball Music Man Exhibits JP16 Artist Series Guitar Designed in Collaboration with John Petrucci**

*This guitar is one of the recently introduced additions to the award winning Ernie Ball Music Man Artist Series, along with acclaimed St. Vincent- and James Valentine models*

**(Summer NAMM Show, Nashville, TN – June 23, 2016) –** Ernie Ball Music Man (Booth 1122, Hall D), one of the world’s premier guitar, bass and amplifier manufacturers, is displaying the JP16, a brand new guitar designed in collaboration with acclaimed guitarist John Petrucci (Dream Theater). This guitar is part of the Ernie Ball Music Man Artist Series, alongside models designed with St. Vincent (Annie Clark), Maroon 5’s James Valentine, Steve Lukather, Albert Lee and Steve Morse.

The Ernie Ball Music Man John Petrucci “JP16” offers an ideal combination of the JP15 and the original Ernie Ball Music Man John Petrucci signature model. The JP16 retains the styling of the current JP15, with highlights including a lightweight basswood body, high gloss Black Lava finish, and a new Floyd Rose 1000 Pro Floating Tremolo system. The JP16 also features the return of the original scooped forearm contour, which will provide hours of playing comfort. First fret JP16 logo, stainless steel frets and a smokey ebony fretboard are standard options on the ultra thin and fast figured, roasted maple neck. The JP16 comes with Schaller tuning machines as standard, a pair of custom DiMarzio humbuckers, and 20+ dB gain boost push/push volume pot provide the JP16 with plenty of sizzling tone. The guitar sports a 25.5-inch scale, gun-oil finish, 17-inch radius, and Ernie Ball’s trademarked 4-over-2 headstock and compensated nut, designed for superior tuning stability.

The Ernie Ball Music Man JP16 will be available for pre-sale July 1, 2016, at a U.S. street price of $2,499.00.

Photo file 1: MM\_JP16\_6\_Front.JPG

Photo caption 1: Ernie Ball Music Man JP16 six-string model

Photo file 2: MM\_JP16\_6\_Angle.JPG

Photo caption 2: Ernie Ball Music Man JP16 six-string model

Photo file 3: MM\_JP16\_7\_Front.JPG

Photo caption 3: Ernie Ball Music Man JP16 seven-string model

Photo file 4: MM\_JP16\_7\_Angle.JPG

Photo caption 4: Ernie Ball Music Man JP16 seven-string model

Photo file 5: MM\_JP16\_CFD.JPG

Photo caption 5: Control function diagram for Ernie Ball Music Man JP16

Photo file 5: MM\_JP16\_PromoGraphic.PDF

Photo caption 5: Ernie Ball Music Man JP16 promotional graphic

**About Ernie Ball:**

In 1962, veteran player and guitar teacher Ernie Ball created Slinkys®, the innovative light gauge electric guitar strings widely revered by thousands of iconic players including Eric Clapton, Keith Richards, Jimmy Page, Paul McCartney, Metallica, Brad Paisley, Slash, John Petrucci, Angus Young and John Mayer. The strings are all crafted in Coachella, CA. Ernie Ball also offers state-of-the-art instrument accessories that are carried in more than 6,000 stores in the U.S. and 120 countries worldwide.

Officially purchasing the Music Man® company in 1984, Sterling, joined later by his sons Scott and Brian, has built a team of dedicated professionals based in San Luis Obispo, CA who collectively share a common goal: crafting the highest level of hand-crafted instruments available. Originally founded by Tom Walker, Forrest White and Leo Fender in 1974, Music Man built its name leading an industry revolution, introducing active electronics on its production instruments. As part of the team during the 70’s, Sterling Ball played an important role on the design and development of the iconic StingRay basses.

The family-run company maintains its founder's dedication to preserving the musician's playing experience and delivering superior sound quality through the development of new products, such as Cobalt Slinkys, M-Steel, Earthwood and the revolutionary Element Shield Packaging, which hermetically seals guitar strings to keep each set as fresh as the day they were made. The company also fosters artist development through musician-focused programs such as the world's largest and longest running unsigned artist programs, where bands compete each year for the chance to play live on national tours, festivals and events. Visit them online at www.ernieball.com and www.music-man.com.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:**

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**Ernie Ball Music Man is exhibiting at Booth 1122 (Hall D) at the 2016 Summer NAMM Show in Nashville, TN.**