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**For Immediate Release**

**Korg USA announces retirement of M.I. industry veteran Loren Molinare**

**Melville, NY – January 3, 2023** – Korg USA announces the retirement of Loren Molinare, an M.I. industry veteran whose career has spanned several decades. He has been a part of the Korg USA family as Blackstar Product Manager/Artist Relations since 2011, when the company acquired distribution of the Blackstar Amplification brand in the U.S. Prior to that, he served as U.S. Business Development Manager for the standalone Blackstar U.S. organization, and also held positions with Aviom (Director of Sales Western States), ESP Guitars (Eastern Regional Sales Manager) and Line 6 (Eastern States Sales).

Aside from his work for prominent manufacturers, Loren is an in-demand performer and producer in the punk and hard rock scenes. He is currently a member of Los Angeles rock stalwarts Little Caesar and has been a member of The DoGs/Detroit, Cruzados and several other acclaimed acts.

Brian Piccolo, Korg USA Director of Brand Management, stated, “Loren is the most positive, fun, and high-energy employee/friend I have had the pleasure to work with. His positive outlook and passion towards products, artists and our overall business was inspiring to be around. His presence will be missed. I am excited for Loren and his family as they enter this next chapter of their lives.”

“For over a decade I have been lucky to work with Loren and witness his commitment to representing our brands with integrity and enthusiasm,” shared Joe Castronovo, President and CEO of Korg USA. “We are extremely grateful for everything he has done and thank him for making a lasting impact with his colleagues and artists.”

On behalf of all the Directors of Blackstar Amplification, Joel Richardson, Blackstar Director of Marketing, remarked, “It’s been a pleasure to work with Loren for well over a decade. Loren planted those first Blackstar flags in the USA and was huge part of breaking into the U.S. market. Loved and respected by all, an incredible musician, wordsmith, colleague and, above all, friend. Loren’s legacy in the Blackstar story will remain forever.”

Photo file 1: LorenMolinare\_Photo1.JPG

Photo caption 1: Loren Molinare has announced his retirement from the M.I. industry, where he most recently served as Blackstar Product Manager/Artist Relations

Photo file 2: LorenMolinare\_Photo2.JPG

Photo caption 2: Loren Molinare