**hello, everyone, and welcome to the party!! now stop me if you’ve heard this one:**

**so Two kids are playing hockey on a pond outside ottowa, when a big, vicious Rottweiler comes up and attacks one of the kids. The other kid takes his stick and slams it down on the back of the dog's neck, killing the dog. A reporter watching this rushes over to talk to the kid then scribbles down the headline he’s gonna write for his story about the incident. It read: *“Young senators Fan Heroically Saves playmate from vicious dog.”***

**The kid sees this and tells the reporter that he's not actually a senators fan, so The reporter says, "Oh; we're in ottawa so I just assumed you were. Who *do* you root for, then?" and The kid answers, "the Canadiens.” So the reporter scratches out his first headline and writes a new one: *“Little French Bastard Kills Beloved Family Pet.”***

**i love that story . . . but the story i love even more is the story of the tremendous success sports systems canada HAS experienced over this past year. and what a year it’s been:**

**we’ve seen record gains in revenues, from $5,000,000 (CONTROLLING FOR qUEENS) in 2016 to this year’S estimated milestone of $8,000,000**

**we completed construction of our new ADDITION facility AT INDUSTRIAL DRIVE.**

**our penetration of both the u.s. and middle east markets has been nothing short of spectacular, and in these two regions alone we’ve gained MULTIPLE NEW customers, with revenues in the u.s. approaching $1,300,000 and almost $300,000 in kUWAIT, sAUDIA aRABIA, qUATAR AND uGANDA — and all of this while maintainING a *very* healthy growth RATE here in canada. CANADA HAS SEEN FANTASTIC GROWTH FROM COAST TO COAST TO COAST.**

**now, none of this success would have been possible — or even conceivable — without the OUTSTANDING contribution that each and every one of you made to our company this past year. your dedication, your diligence, and your determination — often in the face of some really daunting challenges — has been absolutely tremendous. from the sales department to the shipping and packaging crew . . . from our SuPer-talented manufacturing and assembly technicians to our site-installation PROFESSIONALS . . . from to our PADDING group TO OUR PROJECT DESIGN SPECIALISTS . . . from OUR customer relations reps to our WORLD-CLASS management team: THE WORK YOU’VE ALL DONE this past year HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY CRUCIAL TO OUR COMPANY’S GROWTH AND VITALITY. YOU SHOULD ALL BE VERY, VERY PROUD OF WHAT WE’VE ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER. I KNOW I AM.**

**as we look forward now to 2018, the only thing i’d say to you is, very simply: *keep it up!* keep on finding new ways to make our operations more efficient, more responsive to our customers needs, and more nimble in meeting the challenges that the futre will undoubtedly throw at us. we’re one of the leaders in our industry, not only here in canada, but around the world. But we must remember that, in business, if you’re not moving ahead, you’re almost certainly falling behind, because your competitors sure aren’t gonna be standing still. so let’s rededicate ourselves to keeping our lead in the marketplace, and as one of best companies to work for in all of canada.**

**so thanks again for the contributions each and every one of you has made this year to our tremendous success. i compliment you, i applaud you, and i thank you, from the bottom of my heart.**

**now, let’s enjoy the party!**

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