2006 Les Mercuriades Competition
14 Quebec companies show their outstanding know-how

On April 19th, 2006, 1,000 prominent figures of the Quebec business community were gathered at the Palais des congrès de Montréal, to see the unveiling of the award-winning companies in the 26th Les Mercuriades Competition.

During an elaborate gala evening, placed under the honorary chairmanship of Mr. Michael Sabia, President and CEO of Bell Canada Entreprises, FCCQ had the great pleasure of welcoming Quebec Premier, Mr. Jean Charest, who recognized 14 Quebec companies having remarkably stood out, thanks to their great accomplishments and demonstration of their know-how.

Once again this year, the jury – chaired by Concordia University President, Mr. Claude Lajeunesse, and composed of well-respected personalities from the business, academic and media communities – faced hard work in their selection on account of the very high quality of the applications sent in, which reflects the vibrant entrepreneurial spirit of Quebec companies. For a second consecutive year, the Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton firm evaluated all the applications to select the finalist companies.

Business of the Year
Every year, two companies, one small and medium-sized business and one large business, are designated by the jury to join the prestigious Club de l’excellence, based on their outstanding performance and their ability to remain among the best. Ski Bromont.com, société en commandite (SMB), and Groupe Biscuits Leclerc inc. (Large Business) were awarded the title “Business of the Year”.

Visit www.mercuriades.com for complete details of the 2006 Competition.

Full of ideas
Congratulations to all the participants and award winners of the 26th Mercuriades Competition for turning dreams into reality. Since we’ve been helping entrepreneurs with their projects for almost 60 years, it was a natural fit for our firm to be the title sponsor of this contest. We would also like to thank our academic partners for helping us evaluate the candidates.
Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development
Presented by

GILDAN - Montreal

GILDAN is a clothing-industry and brand-name clothes marketing company. With more than 10,000 employees worldwide, it shows its determination to be socially responsible by implementing a social compliance program allowing the company to resort to best practices, and to offer good working conditions.

Leisure and Culture

Ski Bromont.com, société en commandite - Bromont, Eastern Townships Region

Ski Bromont.com is one of the seven major ski stations in Quebec. Its daring marketing strategy, combined with the development of a 250-acre skiable resort, allowed the company to increase by 300% the downhill skiing patronage.

Technological Innovation
Presented by

Mechtronix Systems Inc. - Saint-Laurent, Montreal Region

Mechtronix Systems Inc. is a flight simulation technologies provider. The company developed a revolutionary flight simulator; its flexibility of operation allows airline companies to perform internally all of their periodic pilot training.

SMB

Vichthon bionique Humaine inc. - Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Quebec Region

Founded in 1999 with the goal of creating the first motorized artificial leg in the world, Vichthon bionique Humaine inc. is about to put the Power Knee on the market. It will be the first functional prototype of such an artificial leg equipped with a motorized knee joint.

Contribution to Economic and Regional Development

LEPAGE Millwork - Rivière-du-Loup, Lower St. Lawrence River Region

Award-winning company at the Gala des Prestiges of the MRC de Rivière-du-Loup Chamber of Commerce.

LEPAGE Millwork is the most important door and window manufacturer in the Lower St. Lawrence River Region. The company ranks among the Top 10 Quebec manufacturers in this field, and is one of the five biggest employer in the MRC de Rivière-du-Loup.
Markets Outside Quebec

SMB

▶ Atrium Biotechnologies inc.
- Quebec

World leader in the development, manufacturing and marketing of products for the beauty, pharmaceutical, chemical and nutrition industries, Atrium Biotechnologies inc. employs over 450 people and has a network of 55 active distributors in 35 countries.

From left to right: Mr. Richard Payette, President and CEO, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton and Mr. Pierre Laurin, Chairman of the Board, Atrium Biotechnologies inc.

LARGE BUSINESS

▶ CAE Inc.
- Saint-Laurent, Montreal Region

CAE Inc. is a world leader in simulation and computer modelling technologies, as well as in integrated training services for civil and military aviation. Operating on five continents, the company exports its production in some 50 countries. More than 90% of its market is outside Canada.

From left to right: Mr. Richard Payette, President and CEO, Raymond Chabot Grant Thornton and Ms. Suzanne Roy, Vice President, Program and Product Management and Customer Services, CAE Inc.

Industrial and Processing Production

Presented by

▶ Groupe Biscuits Leclerc inc.
- Saint-Augustin-de-Desmaures, Quebec Region

Groupe Biscuits Leclerc inc. specializes in manufacturing cookies, wafers, snack bars, muffin bars, breakfast cereals, crackers and pretzels. This family company has more than 480 people working in its five plants, and exports its products in over 20 countries.

From left to right: Mr. Jean Leclerc, CEO Canada, Groupe Biscuits Leclerc inc.

Trade and Distribution

Presented by

▶ Paladin Labs Inc.
- Montreal

Leader for innovating in the specialized pharmaceutical products sector, Paladin Labs Inc. has a portfolio of more than 50 pharmaceutical products. It has also established strategic partnerships with some 30 renowned companies.

From left to right: Mr. Doug Guzman, Vice Chairman of the Board – RBC Royal Bank, Capital Markets and Mr. Mark Beaudet, Vice-President, Marketing & Sales, Paladin Labs Inc.

Human Resources

LARGE BUSINESS

▶ Algorithme Pharma
- Laval

Specialized in clinical research, Algorithme Pharma works with more than 375 employees. The company has implemented a comprehensive knowledge management program assessing the training needs and allowing the training to consistently adapt to the changing reality of Algorithme Pharma’s sector of activity.

From left to right: Mr. Benjamin J. Kernball, President and CEO, Imperial Tobacco Canada and Mr. Louis Caillé, President and CEO, Algorithme Pharma

SMB

Presented by

▶ Usinatech inc.
- Melbourne, Eastern Townships Region

Usinatech inc. specializes in manufacturing precision mechanical equipment. The company has put in place a state-of-the-art human resources management structure which enables on an on-going basis the development of knowledge and skills of its employees.

From left to right: Ms. Dominique Savoie, Operations Assistant Deputy Minister, Emploi-Québec and Mr. Rudy Pelletier, President, Usinatech inc.
Financial, Real Estate and Professional Services
Presented by

Deloitte.
Samson Bélair/Deloitte & Touche

Vézina, Dufault inc.
Montreal

Vézina, Dufault inc. is one of the top 10 risk management and insurance claim brokerage firms in Quebec.

To see the interviews with the award-winning companies, produced by Pecunia, visit www.lesaffaires.com/mercuriades

The Promotion of Entrepreneurship Merit Award
Presented by

Défi de l’entrepreneuriat jeunesse
Québec

In 2005, in the context of the 25th Les Mercuriades Competition and in collaboration with the Quebec government, FCCQ created the Promotion of Entrepreneurship Merit Award. The award is aimed at recognizing the work of a personality who stood out in his/her career by his/her commitment to promote the entrepreneurial culture to the younger generation.

Considered by many as the “patron” of young entrepreneurs in Quebec, Ms. Micheline Locas, President and CEO of the Association des clubs d’entrepreneurs étudiants du Québec, was the recipient of the Promotion of Entrepreneurship Merit Award 2006.

The Philanthropic Merit Award
Inaugurated in 1999, the Philanthropic Merit Award aims at recognizing in a special way one or some business community personalities who, on top of being successful in their own activity sector, have distinguished themselves throughout their career by their social and community involvement.

This year, the jury selected Ms. Nan-b and Mr. Philippe de Gaspé Beaubien, co-founders of the Institut de l’Entreprise familiale, a couple both in business and day-to-day life, and for whom social involvement plays a predominant role in all their actions.

To see the interviews with the award-winning companies, produced by Pecunia, visit www.lesaffaires.com/mercuriades

Les Mercuriades 2006 Competition
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