

For Immediate Release

September 14, 2011

**28 Companies Around the Province Selected as Finalists
for 2011 B.C. Export Awards**

VANCOUVER, B.C. – Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) BC Division and the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation announced B.C.'s Top Exporters for 2011 today.

"We are pleased to announce this year's finalists," said Peter Jeffrey, Vice President, CME B.C. "This year's selection process was considerably challenging. We received more than 500 nominations from around the province this year, the most we have ever had."

"I want to offer my congratulations to year's finalists, all of whom have helped drive B.C.'s export growth," said Pat Bell, Minister of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation. "These companies, regardless if they're established players or up-and-comers, are proof that exporting leads to success. The ability to export our products is key in building B.C.'s economy and the Province will continue to assist our companies connect to opportunities in international markets."

This year's Top Finalists are:

Advancing Technologies

- Avigilon, Vancouver
- MDA, Richmond
- STEMCELL Technologies, Vancouver

Consumer Products

- ARC'TERYX Equipment Inc, North Vancouver
- Coast Spas Manufacturing Inc, Langley
- ParetoLogic Inc, Victoria

Manufactured Products

- SEI Industries Ltd, Delta
- Unifiller Systems Inc, Delta
- Viking Air Ltd, Sidney

New Exporter

- Anodyne Electronics Manufacturing Corp, Kelowna
- Conifex Timber Inc, Prince George
- HootSuite Media Inc, Vancouver

New Media

- Arcana Studio Inc, Burnaby
- Nerd Corps Entertainment Inc, Vancouver
- Neverblue, Victoria

Primary Products & Services

- Canfor Pulp Limited Partnership, Vancouver
- Coast Clear Wood Ltd, Surrey
- Tolko Industries Ltd, Vernon



Professional & Services

- Gemcom Software International, Vancouver
- Klohn Crippen Berger, Vancouver
- MTU Maintenance Canada Ltd Richmond

Sustainability

- ABC Recycling Ltd, Burnaby
- Archipelago Marine Research Ltd, Victoria
- Dr. Battery, Richmond

Northern BC Exporter

- Coast Tsimshian Resources LP, Terrace
- Conifex Timber Inc, Prince George
- Kyahwood Forest Products, Smithers

B.C.'s top business leaders and government officials will be in attendance at the 29th annual gala luncheon to celebrate the announcement of the winners from the nine business categories and name the 2011 Exporter of the Year, the Leadership Award winner and the International Business Studies Award winner. This year's B.C. Export Awards Gala will take place on October 28, at the Hyatt Regency in Vancouver. For more information visit www.bcexportawards.com

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About the B.C. Export Awards

The B.C. Export Awards is the longest running ceremony of its kind in Canada, and celebrates the valuable role that the export industry plays in the B.C. economy. The awards are co-hosted annually by CME and the Provincial Government of B.C. They are open to all B.C. companies that have been exporting a product or service for two or more years. Companies are either nominated or self apply for the awards. The Top 3 firms in each category are chosen by an independent panel of judges, selected by the co-hosts and the sponsors for their background, experience and objectivity. Since inception in 1982, the B.C. Export Awards has recognized the achievements of more than 335 BC exporters.

Sponsors of this year's awards include RBC Financial Group, Export Development Canada, Initiatives Prince George, Prince George Airport Authority, Prince Rupert Port Authority, CN Rail, The Eyes Television Production Ltd., Air Canada Cargo, BCIT, KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers, UPS Canada, Syspro, Fireworks Marketing Group, Hyatt Regency Vancouver, International Financial Centre British Columbia, British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE), Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC), BC Hydro Power Smart and WorkSafeBC. For more information visit www.bcexportawards.com

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