

November 25, 2005

2005 BC Export Awards
BC HONOURS TOP EXPORT COMPANIES

VANCOUVER – Canadian Forest Products (Canfor), one of Canada's most successful integrated forest products companies, was honoured Friday as British Columbia's **Exporter of the Year** at the **2005 BC Export Awards**.

"BC exporters are a leading component and driver of our economy and this year's winning firms represent the newest wave of exceptional BC companies who have successfully navigated the complex world of global trade," says Werner Knittel, Vice President, BC Division, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters. "Their tenacity and willingness to move beyond the everyday by taking calculated risks – are paying off in terms of increased competitiveness and profitability."

"All the companies presented with the 2005 BC Export Awards represent the drive, innovation and competitiveness that have always been critical to an export-based economy like ours," says Premier Gordon Campbell. "Businesses all around the province are constantly finding new ways to tap new opportunities in new markets around the globe."

BC Minister of Economic Development Colin Hansen says the **2005 BC Export Award** winners are an inspiration for BC exporters to build on. "We have companies, the talented people, the cultural diversity and the competitive economic environment to see enormous growth opportunities across BC," says Minister Hansen.

The **BC Export Awards** are co-hosted by the Ministry of Economic Development and the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME). Presented annually, the Awards recognize the province's **Top 21 Exporters**. All BC-registered companies that have exported a product or service for two or more years are eligible award nominees. The **2005 BC Export Awards** winners are:

PRIMARY PRODUCTS & RESOURCES AND
EXPORTER OF THE YEAR:

Canadian Forest Products (Canfor)

Delta, BC

www.canfor.ca

Contact: *Jim Shepherd, President; (604) 661.5225*

Canfor is an integrated forest products company exporting 80% of its lumber, pulp, paper and panel to markets around the world.

ADVANCING TECHNOLOGIES:

VCom Inc.

Victoria, BC

www.VCom.com

Contact: Dr. Surinder Kumar, President; (250) 881.1982

Established in 1988, VCom is a world leading designer and manufacturer and worldwide exporter of products for Cable TV, data-over-cable, digital video and wireless communications industries.

NEW MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT

Insight Film Studios Ltd.

Vancouver, BC

www.insightfilm.com

Contact: Kirk Shaw, CEO; (604) 623.3369

Insight Film Studios produces and is a worldwide exporter of feature length movies almost exclusively on High Definition video.

CONSUMER PRODUCTS:

Nature's Path Foods Inc.

Richmond, BC

www.naturespath.com

Contact: Arran Stephans, President; (604) 248.8798

Nature's Path Foods is the number 1 organic cereal manufacturer in North America and ships its products to 32 different nations across the globe.

MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS:

Coast Clear Wood Ltd.

Surrey, BC

www.coastclearwood.com

Contact: Tom Sundher, President; (604) 513.4493

Coast Clear Wood manufactures and markets customer specific Hemlock, Douglas Fir and Western Red Cedar lumber to countries around the world.

PROFESSIONAL & SERVICES:

CHC Helicopter Corporation

Richmond, BC

www.chc.ca

Contact: Sylvain Allard, CEO; (604) 232.7392

CHC is the world's largest commercial helicopter operator, providing services to more than 30 countries on all seven continents.

NEW EXPORTER:

Convedia

Vancouver, BC

www.convedia.com

Contact: Peter Briscoe, CEO; (604) 918.6318

Conveda is a leading global supplier of IP Media Servers, a high technology hardware product for large IP telecommunications networks.

EXPORT LEADERSHIP AWARD:

Dr. Norman B. Keevil

Scientist, explorer, entrepreneur, innovator and mining industry leader, Dr. Keevil has built bridges between the mining and academic research communities and is best known for transforming Teck Cominco into a leading company in the world mining industry.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS STUDIES AWARD:

Gerard D'Avino

Gerard D'Avino is a recent graduate of Royal Roads University's, Bachelor of Commerce in Entrepreneurial Management program, having also graduated from Camosun College in Business Administration (Marketing) in 1995.

Sponsors of the 2005 **BC Export Awards** are RBC Financial Group, The Eyes Multimedia, Western Economic Diversification Canada, Export Development Canada, Air Canada Cargo, Vancouver Port Authority, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Business Development Bank of Canada, KPMG LLP, Fireworks/Maxwest, University of Victoria, Alcan, BCBusiness Magazine, Hyatt Regency Vancouver, Greer Shipping, Trade Team BC, Alexander Holburn Beaudin & Lang, Canada Export Centre, Canadian Pacific Railway, TSI Terminal Systems Inc. and Pacific PR Strategies.

For more information visit www.bcexportawards.com

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