



**For Immediate Release**

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## **BC Export Awards announces the 2011 winners**

*Nine companies from across the province awarded for their contributions to the economy*

**Vancouver, BC** – Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) BC Division and the Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Innovation announced the 2011 B.C. Export Award Winners today. Nine companies and two individuals from around the province were recognized and awarded for their achievements at the annual BC Export Awards gala.

Avigilon of Vancouver was named as Exporter of the Year for their significant contribution to the BC economy through economic growth in their community, new investment and job creation

Dr. John MacDonald, Chairman and CEO of Day 4 Energy, a global provider of solar photovoltaic products and solutions, was presented with the Leadership Award in recognition of the significant contributions he has made to BC export throughout his career. Prior to co-founding Day 4 Energy, Dr. MacDonald co-founded MacDonald Dettwiler, Canada's largest space technology company.

"It's an honour to recognize Dr. John MacDonald for his distinguished record of promoting and growing British Columbia's economy," said Premier Christy Clark. "Dr. MacDonald's numerous contributions have positioned Canada as a world leader in space science and technology and have directly contributed to the success of B.C.'s ability to export its products to global markets, a key component of the BC Jobs Plan. In addition to being successful entrepreneurs, all of today's recipients have created jobs for thousands and are true visionaries."

This is the 29<sup>th</sup> year that the BC Export Awards have recognized and celebrated the contributions of BC's exporting companies.

"The companies selected this year represent the leadership and innovation that characterizes our export industry," said Peter Jeffrey, Vice President, CME, BC Division. "I congratulate all of this year's BC Export Awards winners and nominees who have demonstrated great success in the face of continued global economic problems, especially with our major trading partner to the south, and extremely volatile foreign exchange rates."

The sold out ceremony, held at the Hyatt Regency Vancouver Hotel, was attended by more than 500 people including award winners and nominees, leaders from British Columbia's business and global trade community, and Richard T. Lee, MLA and Parliamentary Secretary for the Asia Pacific to the Minister of Jobs Tourism and Innovation and Colin Hansen, MLA Vancouver-Quilchenawho both represented the Province.

The winners of the 2011 Awards are:

### **Exporter of the Year**

- Avigilon, Vancouver

### **Advancing Technologies**

- Avigilon, Vancouver

### **Consumer Products**

- ARC'TERYX Equipment Inc, North Vancouver

**Manufactured Products**

- Viking Air Ltd, Sidney

**New Exporter**

- Conifex Timber Inc., Vancouver

**New Media**

- Neverblue, Victoria

**Primary Products & Services**

- CoastClear Wood Ltd, Surrey

**Professional & Services**

- Gemcom Software International, Vancouver

**Sustainability**

- Archipelago Marine Research Ltd., Victoria

**Northern BC Exporter**

- Coast Tsimshian Resources LP, Terrace

**International Business Studies**

- Larisa Topalo

**Leadership**

- Dr. John MacDonald

**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. They will be celebrating their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2012. The awards are co-hosted annually by CME and the Provincial Government of BC. They are open to all BC. 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 27 firms 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 BC Export Awards has recognized the achievements of more than 320 BC's 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, Great Pacific Media Inc, Air Canada Cargo, BCIT, KPMG, PricewaterhouseCoopers, UPS Canada, Syspro, Fireworks Marketing Group, Hyatt Regency Vancouver, AdvantageBC International Business Centre, British Columbia Council for International Education (BCCIE), Business Development Bank of Canada (BDC), BC Hydro Power Smart, WorkSafeBC and Alexander Holburn Beaudin & Lang LLP.

For more information visit [www.bcexportawards.com](http://www.bcexportawards.com)

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