

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **BC EXPORT AWARDS CALL FOR APPLICATIONS** **Seeking BC's Top 21 Exporters for 2005**

(Vancouver) – The BC Division of the Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters (CME) has issued a call for applications for the **2005 BC Export Awards**.

“The BC Export Awards recognize excellence in exporting and promote the sector’s role models for the business community in BC,” said Werner Knittel, Vice President, BC Division, CME. “Our Export Awards recipients are leaders in an industry that exported more than \$28 billion worth of goods and services around the world each year, and these Awards confirm their outstanding success.”

Now into its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, the **2005 BC Export Awards**, which recognize both established and new exporters, celebrate the innovative approaches and unique contributions of BC’s “export champions” make to the province’s economy. Last year Electronic Arts took the top prize for **Exporter of the Year** among a field of seven finalists representing communities across BC. “BC exporters are an important part of our economy and are on top of their game,” said Don Mattrick, Electronic Arts President of Worldwide Studios.

Applications close on July 4, 2005. For more information and an application form go to [www.bcexportawards.com](http://www.bcexportawards.com). The awards, open to all BC registered companies, regardless of size, include categories for New Exporter, Advancing Technologies, Consumer Products, Manufactured Products, Professional & Services, New Media & Entertainment, Primary Products & Resources, Leadership, and International Business Studies.

Finalists from each category, **BC's Top 21 Exporters for 2005** will be honoured at a gala luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on **Friday, November 25, 2005**, jointly hosted by the BC Division of the CME and the Ministry of Small Business and Economic Development.

Sponsors of this year’s awards include RBC Financial Group, The Eyes Multimedia, Western Economic Diversification Canada, Air Canada Cargo, Vancouver Port Authority Export Development Canada, Alcan, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Business Development Bank of Canada, University of Victoria, KPMG LLP, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Fireworks, BC Business, Canada Export Centre, Greer Shipping, Trade Team BC, Alexander Holburn Beaudin & Lang, Marketing Group and Pacific PR Strategies.

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