



Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award
For Immediate Release

PR Contact: Belinda Kemper, DEMILEC (USA) LLC®
(817) 640-4900 / Belinda@DemilecUSA.com

Jacques Larivière earns top spot as Québec Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year®

Canada's outstanding entrepreneurs propel economy forward

Montreal, Oct. 2 /CNW Telbec/ - Jacques Larivière of Demilec Inc.-a leading and environmentally responsible maker of polyurethane foam systems – is this year's Québec Ernst Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Award recipient.

"Jacques Larivière's entrepreneurial spirit drove him to seize opportunities, and develop an innovative business that is both profitable, and keeps sustainability in mind," says François Dufresne, Director of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards in Québec, and a partner with Ernst & Young Montréal. "He is a great example of how entrepreneurs can move industry and the economy forward, and make a real difference."

Founded in 1983, Demilec is one of Canada's fastest-growing manufacturers and marketers of urethane foam systems. Their insulating products are developed at Demilec's 70,000-square foot manufacturing site in Boisbriand, Québec. The company also sells their products in 20 retail outlets across North America.

Demilec is committed to supporting clean technology and uses recycled plastics, renewable natural oils and water in their products to protect the atmosphere. The company was also the first Canadian maker of spray polyurethane to banish the use or production of ozone-depleting chemicals by 2000.

"Ecological responsibility is a priority on everyone's agenda. Jacques has capitalized on opportunities in this market and has driven his company to the top," notes Dufresne. "Demilec Inc. is a pioneer in the manufacture of environmentally friendly products, and tomorrow's entrepreneurs will be inspired by his achievements."

Larivière's dedication to environmental awareness extends beyond his business, and into the wider community. In 2005, Demilec supported the Canadian team in the international Solar Decathlon competition. Rival teams attempted to build a house powered only by solar energy. The Canadian team took home the prestigious Solar Decathlon award in the "Energy efficiency" category from the National Association of Home Builders.

Category winners of the Québec Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2009 Awards:

Cleantech

Jacques Larivière
Demilec Inc. 1 Boisbriand
Demilec.com

Specializes in the research, development and manufacture of several high-quality polyurethane foam systems.

2925 Galleria Drive Arlington, TX 76011 • Phone: (817) 640-4900 • Fax: (817) 633-2000

Web site: www.DemilecUSA.com • E-mail: info@DemilecUSA.com

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Business-to-business products and services

Benoit La Salle

SEMAFO inc. 1 Saint-Laurent

semafo.com

Canadian-based mining company with gold production and exploration activities in West Africa.

Business-to-consumer products and services

Bianka Grand-Maison, Yan Grand-Maison

Savons Prolav Inc. 1 Laval

bio-green.ca/en/

Manufactures biodegradable, eco-friendly household cleaners.

Emerging entrepreneur

Jason Neale

OmniGlobe Networks Inc. 1 Pointe-Claire

omniglobe.com

Global telecommunications company that delivers reliable and affordable broadband, cellular and satellite communications services to areas around the world where terrestrial communications are unavailable, unreliable or too expensive.

Manufacturing

Shyam Gupta

SDP Components Inc. 1 Dorval

sdp.ca

Designs, manufactures and distributes high-power RF isolators and circulators to the wireless infrastructure industry.

Real estate/construction

Sam Scalia

Samcon Inc. 1 Montréal

samcon.ca

Condominium construction in Montréal.

Social entrepreneur

Gilles Cossette

Certex 1 Saint-Hubert

certexcanada.com

Sheltered work centre that specializes in the recycling of clothing and textiles.

Technology

Richard Maltais, Pascal Pilon

Averna 1 Montréal

averna.com

Provides test systems and solutions that help communications device-makers improve the quality of their products.

What's next?

As the Québec Entrepreneur of the Year 2009, Mr. Larivière will compete with top entrepreneurs from the Atlantic, Prairies, Ontario and Pacific regions for the national honor of Canada's Entrepreneur of the Year 2009, to be presented at a gala celebration November 24, 2009, in Vancouver. In June 2010, Canada's Entrepreneur of the Year 2009 will move to the world stage to compete with 50 country recipients for the title of Ernst & Young World Entrepreneur Of The Year(R). Canada's own Guy Laliberté from Cirque du Soleil was the recipient of the 2007 World Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

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About the awards program

The Entrepreneur of The Year Awards honor the spirit and contribution of entrepreneurs here and around the world. This year, the Canadian program is proudly celebrating 16 years of honoring Canada's outstanding entrepreneurs from all areas of business. For more information on the program, please visit ey.com/ca/eoy.

Nominees are reviewed by an independent judging panel, which is composed of several distinguished business leaders and previous award recipients. The members of the Québec region panel for 2009 were Denis Brière, Rector, Université Laval; Johanne Dion, President, TRANS-HERBe Inc. and 2007 EOY award recipient; Jean Gattuso, President and CEO, A. Lassonde Inc., COO, Lassonde Industries Ltd. and 2008 Québec Entrepreneur Of The Year; Nina Gupta, President, Greenlite Lighting Corporation and 2008 EOY award recipient; Marie-Claude Houle, President, EBC Inc. and 2008 EOY award recipient; Andrew Lutfy, CEO, Groupe Dynamite Inc. and 2007 Québec Entrepreneur Of The Year; Bernard Poulin, President, Le Groupe S.M. International Inc. and 2007 EOY award recipient; Magda Slezak, Founder, Magenta Studio Photo and 2006 EOY award recipient.

The Québec Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards are presented in collaboration with Desjardins. National program sponsors are La Presse, RDI, Global Television Network and the National Post.

About Ernst & Young

Ernst & Young is a global leader in assurance, tax, transaction and advisory services. Worldwide, our 144,000 people are united by our shared values and an unwavering commitment to quality. We make a difference by helping our people, our clients and our wider communities achieve their potential. For more information, please visit ey.com/ca.

For further information: Marie-Ève Graniero, (514) 874 4313, marie-eve.graniero@ca.ey.com

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