

11 May 2011

HSBC BANK CANADA ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THE HSBC INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS AWARDS

HSBC Bank Canada has announced the four winners of the inaugural HSBC International Business Awards, which celebrate the best of Canadian companies doing business abroad.

The awards were developed by HSBC Bank Canada, in partnership with Business without Borders, to recognize Canadian firms that have made a real difference in taking their products and services to the world. An award was offered in each of the following four categories: HSBC International Business of the Year Award – Small and Medium Enterprise; HSBC International Business of the Year Award – Large Enterprise; Leadership in International Trade in Asia-Pacific; and Leadership in International Trade in Latin America.

Finalists and winners were honoured at a gala celebration held May 10, 2011, at the Art Gallery of Ontario, in Toronto.

Lindsay Gordon, President and Chief Executive Officer, HSBC Bank Canada, said: “As the leading international bank in the country, HSBC Bank Canada’s deep understanding of the key issues, trends and challenges facing Canadian companies doing business abroad enables us to provide them unique support. In particular, our global research shows that Canadian companies will look beyond their traditional trade partners for future growth opportunities, which enables us to fully support them as a global financial institution. We congratulate all the finalists and winners of the HSBC International Business Awards as outstanding examples of Business without Borders.”

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The HSBC International Business Award winners are:

HSBC International Business of the Year – Small and Medium Enterprise

Toon Boom Animation Inc., Montréal, Québec
Animation Software

HSBC International Business of the Year – Large Enterprise

Forensic Technology WAI Inc., Montréal, Québec
Ballistics and Firearms Identification Technologies

Leadership in International Trade - Asia-Pacific

B+H Architects, Toronto, Ontario
Architecture and Interior Design

Leadership in International Trade - Latin America

Bassett & Walker International, Inc., Toronto, Ontario
Agricultural Commodities

Winners were selected by a judging committee drawn from Canadian Business magazine, The Globe and Mail Report on Business, Import Export Canada, the Economist Intelligence Unit, the Desautels Faculty of Management at McGill University, and the Sauder School of Business at the University of British Columbia. PwC Canada performed due diligence on all the finalists.

All winners are majority Canadian owned (50.1 per cent), headquartered in Canada, generate at least 10 per cent of their revenue from activities outside of Canada, and all have had minimum sales of C\$2.5 million for each of the last two fiscal years.

About HSBC Bank Canada

HSBC Bank Canada, a subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc, has more than 260 offices, including over 140 bank branches, and is the leading international bank in Canada. With around 7,500 offices in 87 countries and territories and assets of US\$2,455 billion at 31 December 2010, the HSBC Group is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organizations.

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About Business without Borders

Canada's newest and best source of news and information to help businesses grow internationally, Business without Borders (www.bwob.ca) was created by HSBC Bank Canada in association with Rogers Publishing Limited and the Globe and Mail. Business without Borders provides news, analysis, tools and inspiring profiles of Canadian businesses that are exporting, expanding their operations and sales abroad or relocating operations to other countries.

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HSBC International Business Awards Gala Dinner - May 10, 2011. From left to right: Mr. Daniel McAlister (Chairman, B+H), Ms. Joan Vogelesang (President and CEO, Toon Boom Animation), Mr. Lindsay Gordon (President and CEO, HSBC Bank Canada), Mr. Nicholas Walker (CEO, Bassett & Walker International) and Mr. Robert Walsh (President, Forensic Technology WAI Inc.) (CNW Group/HSBC Bank Canada)

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