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## Best Managed program salutes companies across Canada with the country's highest honour for ongoing business performance

**TORONTO, December 13, 2006**— They come in all shapes and sizes, from all regions across the country, representing a wide variety of industries. But the best of the best in Canadian business have one thing in common –sustained, superior performance over time.

Consistently maintaining success and achievement at the highest level has earned these leading companies inclusion in a distinguished group – the Best Managed program's Platinum Club or Requalified membership.

Platinum Club members form an elite group of Canadian-owned and managed companies that consistently excel in every aspect of business. To become a Platinum Club member, companies must maintain their designation as one of Canada's Best Managed Companies for a minimum of six consecutive years, subject to annual operational and financial review.

In addition to the 44 new Platinum Club members, 84 leading Canadian companies requalified in 2006 for the Best Managed designation by successfully meeting stringent operational and financial review requirements.

"Achieving the highest level of business performance over the long-term is only possible when organizations embrace a culture of aligning every activity and resource with building value for their stakeholders," said Deloitte Partner with the Private Company Services Group, and National Leader of the Best Managed program, John Hughes. "Membership in these groups symbolizes the ultimate goal for any business – sustained high performance. All companies strive for business success; what distinguishes Platinum Club and Requalified members is their ability to sustain that success."

Hughes points to the five most prominent common attributes these exceptional companies share which contribute to their success, including their ability to:

1. **Predict and adapt** to the constantly changing domestic and global business environment
2. **Innovate and extend their value proposition** to customers and talent
3. **Balance risks and opportunities** with a strong balance sheet, enabling sustainability through unforeseen challenges
4. **Develop long-term executable strategies** that leverage core skills
5. **Cultivate and preserve a sense of purpose**, belonging and loyalty throughout the organization

The Best Managed program asked the 2006 Platinum Club and Requalified companies about their revenue growth plans. The vast majority named more than one strategy. Of those that specified, the significant majority (59%) plan to pursue domestic growth, while just

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over a third (36%) plan to drive revenue growth through international operations or expansion. Acquisitions and alliances are the hottest future growth strategies cited by Platinum Club winners (51% and 56%, respectively). Technology is also at the centre of future growth plans (for 51%), followed by new product lines or new products (43% and 41% respectively). By far the most profound growth challenge these companies face is 'finding qualified employees' cited by 63% as a concern.

"The success of these companies – the best of the best – is an inspiration to all Canadian businesses," said James McSherry, Executive Vice President and Managing Director, CIBC Commercial Banking. "Sustaining the highest level of business performance over the long-term is fraught with challenges. Only the fittest succeed in making the giant leap from small entrepreneurial operations to multi-million dollar enterprises, avoiding the many pitfalls along the way."

**2006 Platinum Club and Requalified members by Province**

Company Name	City	Province	Industry
<b>British Columbia</b>			
<b>Platinum Club members</b>			
Coast Spas Manufacturing Inc.	Langley	BC	Manufacturing
Deeley Harley-Davidson Canada	Richmond	BC	Automotive
Boston Pizza International Inc.	Richmond	BC	Food Services
Odlum Brown Limited	Vancouver	BC	Financial Services
<b>Requalified members</b>			
Golder Associates Ltd.	Burnaby	BC	Engineering Consulting
NORPAC Controls Ltd.	Burnaby	BC	Engineering Consulting
CANTEST Ltd.	Burnaby	BC	Life Sciences
The Oppenheimer Group	Coquitlam	BC	Food Services
Nuheat Industries Ltd.	Delta	BC	Manufacturing
Hayes Forest Services Limited	Duncan	BC	Forestry
A&W Food Services of Canada Inc.	North Vancouver	BC	Food Services
Great Little Box Company Ltd.	Richmond	BC	Manufacturing
Cummins Western Canada	Surrey	BC	Technology
<b>Alberta</b>			
<b>Platinum Club members</b>			
Graham Group Ltd.	Calgary	AB	Construction
First Calgary Savings & Credit Union Ltd.	Calgary	AB	Financial Services
SMART Technologies Inc.	Calgary	AB	Technology
Palliser Lumber Sales Ltd.	Crossfield	AB	Manufacturing
PCL Construction Group of Companies	Edmonton	AB	Construction
Design Group Staffing Inc.	Edmonton	AB	Human Resources
Fountain Tire	Edmonton	AB	Retail
<b>Requalified members</b>			
AdFarm Partnership	Calgary	AB	Business Services
CANA Group of Companies	Calgary	AB	Construction
Jayman MasterBUILT Inc.	Calgary	AB	Construction
Trico Homes Inc.	Calgary	AB	Construction
Apex Distribution Inc.	Calgary	AB	Energy & Resources
Big Country Energy Services LP	Calgary	AB	Energy & Resources
Spartan Controls Ltd.	Calgary	AB	Energy & Resources

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Hopewell Development Corporation	Calgary	AB	Real Estate
Commercial Solutions Inc.	Edmonton	AB	Industrial Distribution
CCI Thermal Technologies Inc.	Edmonton	AB	Manufacturing
Waiward Steel Fabricators Ltd.	Edmonton	AB	Manufacturing
IFS Voyages Inc.	Edmonton	AB	Travel & Tourism
Blue Falls Manufacturing Limited	Thorsby	AB	Manufacturing
<b>Saskatchewan</b>			
<b>Platinum Club members</b>			
Mega Group Incorporated	Saskatoon	SK	Business Services
Yanke Group of Companies	Saskatoon	SK	Transportation
<b>Requalified members</b>			
Brandt Group of Companies	Regina	SK	Manufacturing
Great Western Brewing Company Limited	Saskatoon	SK	Manufacturing
Philom Bios Inc.	Saskatoon	SK	Manufacturing
<b>Manitoba</b>			
<b>Platinum Club members</b>			
National Leasing Group Inc.	Winnipeg	MB	Financial Services
Canad Inns	Winnipeg	MB	Hospitality
Monarch Industries Limited	Winnipeg	MB	Manufacturing
WGI Westman Group Inc.	Winnipeg	MB	Manufacturing
The Dufresne Group	Winnipeg	MB	Retail
Bison Transport Inc.	Winnipeg	MB	Transportation
<b>Requalified members</b>			
Golden West Broadcasting Ltd.	Altona	MB	Media
Hytek Ltd.	La Broquerie	MB	Agribusiness
The Murray Automotive Group	Winnipeg	MB	Automotive
Johnston Group Inc.	Winnipeg	MB	Business Services
B.A. Robinson Co. Ltd.	Winnipeg	MB	Consumer Business
Paterson GlobalFoods Inc.	Winnipeg	MB	Food Services
<b>Ontario</b>			
<b>Platinum Club members</b>			
MSM Transportation Inc.	Bolton	ON	Transportation
Pioneer Petroleums	Burlington	ON	Retail
Brock Solutions Inc.	Kitchener	ON	Engineering Consulting
Flynn Canada Ltd.	Mississauga	ON	Construction
Longon Brothers Fruit Markets Inc.	Mississauga	ON	Food Services
Prime Restaurants of Canada Inc.	Mississauga	ON	Food Services
Quik X Transportation Inc.	Mississauga	ON	Transportation
Wheels Group	Mississauga	ON	Transportation
Allied Global Holdings Inc.	Newmarket	ON	Financial Services
Modern Niagara Group Inc.	Ottawa	ON	Construction
Eagle Professional Resources Inc.	Ottawa	ON	Human Resources
Medical Pharmacies Group Inc.	Pickering	ON	Life Sciences
Kriska Holdings Ltd.	Prescott	ON	Transportation
Consumer Impact Marketing Ltd.	Toronto	ON	Business Services

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Spin Master Limited	Toronto	ON	Manufacturing
Magnotta Winery Corporation	Vaughan	ON	Manufacturing/Retail
Northern Digital Inc.	Waterloo	ON	Manufacturing
<b>Requalified members</b>			
Barrie Metals Group of Companies	Barrie	ON	Recycling
Challenger Motor Freight Inc.	Cambridge	ON	Transportation
Mackinnon Transport Inc.	Guelph	ON	Transportation
Conestoga Cold Storage	Kitchener	ON	Food Services
Adastra Corporation	Markham	ON	Technology
EllisDon Corporation	Mississauga	ON	Construction
DBG Canada Limited	Mississauga	ON	Manufacturing
Lakeside Process Controls Ltd.	Mississauga	ON	Manufacturing
Redknee Inc.	Mississauga	ON	Telecommunications
Tandet Management Inc.	Oakville	ON	Automotive
Decima Research Inc.	Ottawa	ON	Market and Opinion Research
IT/NET Group Inc.	Ottawa	ON	Technology
Semiconductor Insights Inc.	Ottawa	ON	Technology
N. Harris Computer Corporation	Ottawa	ON	Technology
Marsan Foods Limited	Scarborough	ON	Food Services
NuComm International	St. Catharines	ON	Telecommunications
Hurley Corporation	Toronto	ON	Business Services
Murray Demolition LP	Toronto	ON	Demolition
Ontor Limited	Toronto	ON	Industrial Distribution
CPI Plastics Group Limited	Toronto	ON	Manufacturing
Metro Label Company Limited	Toronto	ON	Manufacturing
Asset Inc.	Toronto	ON	Technology
Globalive Communications Corp.	Toronto	ON	Technology
G.A.P Adventures	Toronto	ON	Travel & Tourism
Conestoga-Rovers & Associates Limited	Waterloo	ON	Engineering Consulting
Tregaskiss Ltd.	Windsor	ON	Manufacturing
Summer Fresh Salads Incorporated	Woodbridge	ON	Food Services
Cousins-Currie Limited	Woodbridge	ON	Manufacturing
Consolidated Fastfrate, Inc.	Woodbridge	ON	Transportation
<b>Quebec</b>			
<b>Platinum Club members</b>			
D.L.G.L. Ltd.	Blainville	QC	Technology
Induspac Packaging Group Inc.	Lachine	QC	Manufacturing
Location d'outils Simplex s.e.c.	Montréal	QC	Consumer Business
Poulies Maska inc.	Sainte-Claire	QC	Manufacturing
Aliments Carrière inc.	St-Denis sur Richelieu	QC	Food Services
<b>Requalified members</b>			
Breakfast People of America	Boisbriand	QC	Food Services
Groupe Robert inc	Boucherville	QC	Transportation
SkiBromont.com	Bromont	QC	Tourism
Plats du Chef, inc.	Dollard-Des-Ormeaux	QC	Food Services

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Groupe Distinction inc.	Lachine	QC	Business Services
Groupe Montoni (1993) Division Construction inc.	Laval	QC	Construction
CIMA+	Laval	QC	Engineering Consulting
Panneaux Maski Inc.	Louiseville	QC	Manufacturing
Teknika HBA	Montréal	QC	Business Services
Groupe Germain inc.	Québec	QC	Travel & Tourism
Pomerleau inc.	Saint-Georges	QC	Construction
Le Groupe Beauceage	Sherbrooke	QC	Automotive
Les industries Mailhot inc.	Terrebonne	QC	Manufacturing
Atrahan Transformation	Yamachiche	QC	Manufacturing
<b>New Brunswick</b>		<b>Requalified members</b>	
Cooke Aquaculture Inc.	Blacks Harbour	NB	Manufacturing
ADI Group Inc.	Fredericton	NB	Business Services
Day & Ross	Hartland	NB	Transportation
<b>Nova Scotia</b>		<b>Platinum Club members</b>	
Secunda International Ltd.	Dartmouth	NS	Energy & Resources
Maritime Travel Inc.	Halifax	NS	Travel & Tourism
		<b>Requalified members</b>	
Office Interiors	Dartmouth	NS	Business Services
Acadian Seaplants Limited	Dartmouth	NS	Life Sciences
O'Regan's	Halifax	NS	Automotive
Wilson Fuel Company Limited	Halifax	NS	Energy & Resources
The Shaw Group Limited	Halifax	NS	Manufacturing
Kimberly-Lloyd Developments Group	Halifax	NS	Real Estate

The 50 new 2006 Best Managed winners will be announced on February 7, 2007. A one-day Symposium and Gala event for Best Managed Companies follows on February 12, 2007 in Toronto. This Symposium will provide an opportunity for executives to exchange ideas and gain new management and leadership insights from their peers and keynote speakers. At a black-tie Gala that evening, Best Managed Companies will celebrate their success with their executive management teams and fellow honourees.

#### About Canada's Best Managed Companies

Established in 1993, Canada's 50 Best Managed Companies (Best Managed) is one of the country's leading business awards program, recognizing excellence in Canadian-owned and managed companies with revenues over \$10 million. Every year, hundreds of entrepreneurial companies compete for this designation in a rigorous and independent process that evaluates the caliber of their management abilities and practices. The awards are granted on three levels: 1) **Best Managed winner** (one of the 50 new winners selected each year), 2) **Requalified member** (repeat winners retain the Best Managed designation for two additional years, subject to annual operational and financial review), 3) **Platinum Club member** (winners that maintain Best Managed status for a minimum of six consecutive years.) Program sponsors are Deloitte, CIBC Commercial Banking, National Post, and Queen's School of Business. For further information, visit [www.canadas50best.com](http://www.canadas50best.com).

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