



2003 CANADA EXPORT AWARD WINNERS

On the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the Canada Export Awards, I am pleased to recognize this year's 12 outstanding Canadian companies. Their achievements and success in the global marketplace have helped continue Canada's role as one of the world's leading trading nations and as an exporter of excellence and innovation. These winners have contributed significantly to Canada's economic growth, generating jobs and prosperity in communities across the country. These companies export more than just their products—they export an image of Canada as a dynamic business partner. They are a symbol of our success abroad.

I salute the dedication and professionalism of all the staff from the winning companies, and extend my congratulations to them for their success on behalf of all Canadians.

Pierre S. Pettigrew,
Minister for International Trade



EXPORTER OF THE YEAR

MEGA BLOKS INC.

Montreal, Quebec

Mega Bloks Inc. is the world's second largest maker of educational construction toys. The company manufactures and exports a range of construction toys that feature its own interlocking plastic blocks. While 70 percent of its revenue comes from North America, Mega Bloks is steadily achieving success in international markets, with sales in over 100 countries.

"No matter where kids live, they live to build, create and learn." MARC BERTRAND, PRESIDENT AND CEO



■ **VIC BERTRAND**
VICE-PRESIDENT
AND COO

■ **MARC BERTRAND**
PRESIDENT AND CEO



JOB CREATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BHP BILLITON DIAMONDS INC.

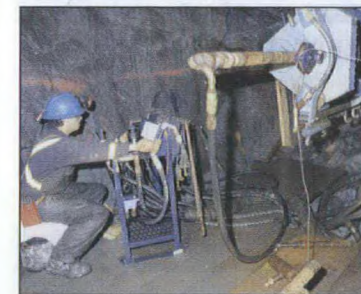
Ekati, Northwest Territories

BHP Billiton Diamonds Inc. is part of the BHP Billiton Group, the world's largest diversified resources company. With the opening of its Ekati Diamond Mine, it has become the largest private employer in the Northwest Territories, where it produces almost 4 percent of the world's rough diamond supply.

<http://ekati.bhpbilliton.com>



■ **JAMES EXCELL**
PRESIDENT AND COO



"This is a very significant recognition for BHP for the emerging diamond industry in Canada and for Canada's north."

ABORIGINAL BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

BLOOD TRIBE AGRICULTURAL PROJECT (1991)

Standoff, Alberta

Blood Tribe Agricultural Project (1991) is the largest irrigation operation in western Canada, irrigating approximately 10,000 hectares in the area of the Blood Tribe in Alberta. The operation has brought significant benefits in employment and education to members of the Blood Tribe, and sells its high-quality fibre product to markets in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, the Middle East and the United States.

www.bloodtribe.org



■ **CHRIS SHADE**
CHIEF AND PRESIDENT

"Our community has worked extremely hard to make our dream of exporting a reality, and this initiative has forged a greater bond between our elders and our youth."

CANADA EXPORT AWARD

BW TECHNOLOGIES LTD.

Calgary, Alberta

BW Technologies is a world leader in the design, manufacture and marketing of hazardous gas detection equipment. The company employs more than 300 people worldwide with offices in Australia, the United States, the United Kingdom, China and the Middle East. Last year's sales totalled more than \$50 million.

www.gasmonitors.com



■ **CODY SLATER**
PRESIDENT AND COO

"BW has been successful in the highly competitive gas detection market, with exports totalling nearly \$40 million last year."

