

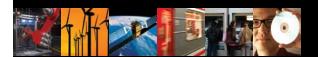
A SNAPSHOT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA'S TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRY



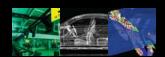
















making a difference every day









About the BC Technology Industry **Association (BCTIA)**

The BC Technology Industry Association is British Columbia's leading member-based industry association that represents start-ups to established technology companies across the province. As the voice of the technology industry, the BCTIA is committed to the ongoing growth, sustainability and prosperity of the technology industry and the transformation of British Columbia to a knowledge-based economy.

The BCTIA delivers a broad range of programs and services that provide members with opportunities to connect, learn and promote their businesses in BC.

www.bctia.org Suite 900 – 1188 W. Georgia St. Vancouver, BC V6E 4A2 T 604.683.6159 F 604.683.3879







Pascal Spothelfer

President, BC Technology Industry Association

Illustrating the breadth and depth of BC's technology industry, this book provides a snapshot of the technology companies that are part of British Columbia's growing technology industry and have earned the titles of Finalists and Winners of the 2008 Technology Impact Awards (TIAs) as established by our independent panel of judges.

Founded in 1994 by the BC Technology Industry Association (BCTIA), the Technology Impact Awards are devoted to the promotion and celebration of outstanding leadership, innovation and technical excellence in the province of British Columbia.

The 2008 TIA finalists and winners represent the diversity and vibrancy of BC's fertile technology sector, which continues to produce new technology leaders that strive for world-class innovation, commercialization and growth.

A trend amongst this year's finalists and winners is an increased presence of clean technologies. From new fuel sources and harnessing solar energy to greener LCD screens

and energy-saving innovation, these technologies reinforce the move to cleaner, greener solutions impacting everyday life.

Other featured technologies include new approaches to protein engineering, innovations in medical imaging, intuitive SPAM filters, breakthroughs in radar satellite technology, optimization of shipping in the building products industry, worldwide assisted GPS deployment, developments in the online research arena, POS innovations, a pioneer software system for the mining industry, and electronic and web-based solutions making differences in the business community.

The BCTIA is committed to the ongoing promotion of these and other outstanding BC technology companies, which serve as shining examples of what can be achieved with creativity, determination and outstanding entrepreneurialism. Our increasingly mature technology sector plays a prominent role in supporting all industries and the BC economy overall – the 2008 Technology Impact Award finalists and winners exemplify this trend.



MOST PROMISING PRE-COMMERCIAL TECHNOLOGY

This award acknowledges a pre-commercial technology in the R\$D stage of development with the potential to commercialize within five years and represents a fundamental advancement in technology.





Molecular Simulations Address Real-World Biotechnology Problems

In the pharmaceutical and chemical industries, proteins equal opportunity. In the pharmaceutical sector, protein therapeutics represent the fastest growing class of drugs. In the chemical industry, rising oil prices and a need to reduce environmental impact are turning companies away from traditional chemical processes and towards enzymebased bioprocesses. To solve problems critical to these sectors, Zymeworks combines computational approaches in molecular and quantum mechanics, incorporating proprietary technology related to correlated amino-acid residue mapping, free-energy determination and protein-ligand interactions within the ZymeCAD™ suite of applications.

Zymeworks' technology pushes the boundaries of computational chemistry. Incorporating novel approaches in parallelization and high performance computing with advances in molecular simulations, ZymeCAD™ provides a comprehensive environment for predictive protein optimization and analysis. Working closely with the ZymeCAD™ development teams, Zymeworks' protein engineers use structural insights they generate in ZymeCAD™ to design modifications in molecular structure that alter the function of enzymes and antibodies to meet market needs.

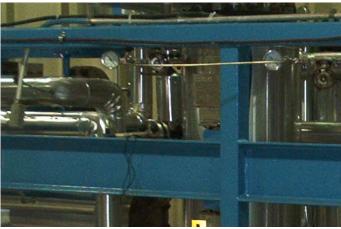
Zymeworks' protein engineering approach allows for shorter R&D cycles, reduced R&D costs, the prediction of experimental failure before committing costly resources and the ability to generate a range of novel intellectual property. The advantages are clear: a shorter time to market, longer patent exclusivity periods and a more efficient utilization of R&D resources.

Zymeworks is a private computational biotechnology company located in Vancouver. Zymeworks deploys ZymeCAD™ on its leading-edge high performance computing cluster, and benefits from strategic relationships with several of the world's leading hardware manufacturers and academic institutions.

Zymeworks Inc

Vancouver www.zymeworks.ca







Lignol's world-class team has the expertise and know-how needed as the world evolves from its dependence on hydrocarbons. —Jack Saddler PhD, FRSC, Professor of Forest Products Biotechnology, Dean, Faculty of Forestry

Revolutionary New Process Converts Waste Wood to Fuel

Currently, 25% of the U.S. corn crop is used to produce fuel ethanol. The need for fuel combined with environmental concerns and high corn prices is driving the demand for new technologies to produce ethanol from new sources rather than from the fermentation of valuable grains and other food-based feedstocks.

Lignol is committed to producing cost-effective fuel ethanol from wood waste and agricultural residues while providing enhanced sustainable environmental benefits. Lignol has acquired and since modified a solvent-based pretreatment technology originally developed by General Electric which pre-treats biomass so effectively that enzymes can rapidly process the feedstock into fermentable sugars, which can be easily converted into fuel-grade ethanol. The process is also unique in that it produces a range of biochemicals that replace chemicals produced from fossil-based fuels, leading to substantial benefits in both oil displacement value and greenhouse gas reduction.

Lignol's technology has documented advantages over competing technologies:

- Significant GHG reduction
- Using far less water than corn ethanol
- Not using food crops or arable land
- Not requiring fossil-fuel-burning machinery or pesticides
- Displacing twice as much fossil fuel as other ethanol technologies
- Using mountain pine beetle and other waste wood

The Lignol process uses a modified organosolv technology with an aqueous ethanol liquor to partially hydrolyze the lignin into fragments that, when small enough, dissolve in the liquor. The major advantage of the Lignol process is that it is a true biorefinery, since it converts almost all components of the cellulosic feedstock into marketable products. Many other processes produce only ethanol and burn all other components of the wood as low-value fuel.

An additional benefit of Lignol's technology is its potential to revitalize small towns. Throughout North America, numerous small rural communities have seen their economies devastated by the closure of pulp and paper mills, while the forest resources that once supported these mills are still growing and available. The Lignol biorefinery process, leveraging existing mill infrastructure, can be used to restore economic health to these communities.

Lignol is currently developing relationships with organizations such as Suncor Energy, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Sustainable Development Technology Canada (SDTC) as it moves toward commercialization of the technology and related activities.

Lingol Energy Corp

Burnaby www.lignol.com



EXCELLENCE IN PRODUCT INNOVATION

This award acknowledges a superior innovation or discovery in an advanced technology. The innovation demonstrates an alternative solution or a next-stage development in technology, with an eye toward commercialization.

FINALIST

MCKESSON

Empowering Healthcare

Multi-Touch System Enables Gesture-Based Diagnostics and Medical Collaboration

In 2007, McKesson Medical Imaging Group unveiled a new, natural, intuitive way to interact with medical imaging systems: Picture Archiving and Communication Systems (PACS) workstations. The breakthrough innovation is a multi-touch system for medical imaging that allows medical imaging professionals to perform diagnostic activities and interact with one another using their hands and intuitive gestures. Daily workflow is streamlined and made more natural, especially for collaborative communication between medical professionals.

The prototype system supports one-handed and two-handed gestures for image navigation and manipulation, including:

- Zooming, panning and scrolling through a stack of images
- Window/level and annotations

The system improves communication by allowing medical images to be seamlessly passed to mobile devices and other hospital departments using intuitive hand motions on multi-touch surfaces. Workflow gestures have also been implemented to open and close cases, dictate cases and mark cases as complete.

This innovation offers the promise of a more efficient workflow and increased productivity. Practical examples include medical image review, physician consultation, and presentation scenarios such as case review and tumour board. In addition to McKesson software, the solution incorporates iPhone, Bluetooth Wi-Fi and a 46" LCD monitor.

McKesson Medical Imaging Group is located in Richmond, BC, and is a business unit of McKesson Provider Technologies.

McKesson Medical Imaging Group

Richmond http://mig.mckesson.com

FINALIST



Dynamic Choreography Dramatically Accelerates ASP.NET Applications

Dynamic, personalized Web 2.0 applications first gained recognition through social networking websites, but today organizations of all sizes in all industries rely on such applications to support their mission-critical operations. However, as these companies scale their applications to meet growing user demand, they are all encountering significant performance issues.

Strangeloop Networks' signature product, the Strangeloop AS1000 Application Scaling Appliance, dramatically improves the performance and scalability of Web applications and allows enterprises to extend even the most dynamic applications to thousands of concurrent users.

By optimizing data-handling behaviours in real-time for both the application and the user's browser, the Strangeloop AS1000 simultaneously reduces website response times and increases the number of transactions the application can accommodate without degradation. The result is the ability to make ASP.NET applications run up to 10 times faster, support 10 times more users and reduce bandwidth by up to 80%.

The Strangeloop AS1000 architecture performs "dynamic choreography" of Web applications — observing and learning from application and browser behaviour, and then applying specific optimization treatments in real time. The AS1000 implements these treatments without changing the code, the network infrastructure or the logic of the application.

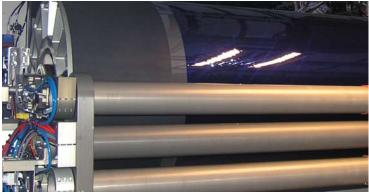
Ultimately, businesses can dramatically reduce the cost and time required to develop and maintain their applications, improve application performance for users, and allow development teams to deliver new features and performance without sacrificing one for the other.

Founded in 2006, Vancouver-based Strangeloop Networks was created specifically to address performance issues arising from dynamic Web applications.

Strangeloop Networks Inc

Vancouver www.strangeloopnetworks.com





Kodak

Kodak's TCF process greatly reduces the number of process steps, increases manufacturing flexibility and reduces waste.

Environmentally Friendly LCD Color Filter Manufacturing Process Cuts Costs and Waste

The existing technology for the manufacture of LCD televisions is photolithography, a costly process requiring expensive masks and a significant manufacturing infrastructure to handle chemicals and etchants. The chemicals are an environmental concern, especially when the size of the television and computer monitor display manufacturing industry is considered.

Kodak's Industrial Imaging Solutions Group has developed an advanced manufacturing tool that uses laser imaging to produce color filters for Liquid Crystal Displays (LCD CF) and, specifically, large LCD televisions in a more cost-effective and environmentally friendly way. DuPont Imaging technologies group is developing a new process, called Thermal Color Filters, to manufacture LCD color filters and has selected the Kodak IIS group to develop the equipment component of the new system. DuPont is developing the consumables and process know-how, and is also providing market channels.

The Thermal Color Filter (TCF) concept is based on existing Kodak laser thermal transfer technology and DuPont consumable technology, in which an image is created by placing a sheet of substrate in close contact with a colorant-coated film, and applying a laser beam to selectively transfer colorant to the substrate.

Kodak has taken this knowledge and background and applied it to a far more technically demanding project: the development of machines to manufacture LCD color filters. The TCF manufacturing process creates a multicolored filter with an infrared laser beam that thermally transfers colorants from a donor sheet to a glass substrate.

TCF greatly reduces the number of process steps, increases manufacturing flexibility and reduces waste, as

well as offering additional advantages over the traditional photolithography process:

- TCF is completely dry, meaning that no chemicals are required. The result is a much greener method of producing LCDs.
- TCF requires less equipment, and therefore reduces the manufacturer's capital investment.
- TCF requires less than 50% of the costly clean room space that photolithography consumes.
- TCF offers the advantage of an all-digital process: not only are masks and the masking process eliminated, but the pattern that is being imaged can be changed, on the fly, to compensate for any distortion in the substrate. This can result in an improvement in imaging that is not possible with a rigid mask.
- The total manufacturing savings are greater than 30% per panel.

Indications of commercial success are extremely promising. A full-scale prototype has been in use with a customer in Asia since 2006, and has proven successful. The customer is satisfied with the results and is hoping to commercialize the technology by 2009.

As the world's foremost imaging innovator, Kodak helps consumers, businesses and creative professionals unleash the power of pictures and printing to enrich their lives. In 2005, Kodak established a presence in Vancouver, BC, when it acquired award-winning start-up Creo Inc.

Kodak Graphic Communications

Vancouver www.graphics.kodak.com



BEST APPLICATION OF TECHNOLOGY

This award is open to all sectors of business and is meant to acknowledge an organization that has utilized technology to enhance and improve its productivity, business processes, operations, sales, marketing, supply chain management, customer service, communications, competitiveness or business relationships.

▼ FINALIST

■ BuildDirect[™]

BuildDirect's World Leading Logistics System Revolutionizing the Building Products Industry

The global building products industry is highly competitive, with thousands of different suppliers selling to buyers around the world in a \$4 trillion market.

For builders, contractors and retailers, one of the biggest challenges in the industry has been to find the best way to move products, without having to deal with multiple suppliers such as shipping lines, rail and trucking companies.

BuildDirect has changed all that. BuildDirect has created an online ordering system that provides customers with real-time quotes for large volume orders, including the total costs of shipping, tax and duty, from any port in the world, right to the customer's doorstep. The bottom line for buyers is access to high quality products at a cost that is as much as 50% below competitors.

BuildDirect's logistics system uses state-of-the-art algorithms to optimize container packing and routing. No other building products company in the world has developed a more efficient shipping channel, and as a result, BuildDirect has entered into partnerships with some of the world's top manufacturers of building supplies.

The real advantage for buyers has been lower pricing. As a result, the company has grown to 60 full-time employees in British Columbia since its start in 1999, and has annual sales of over \$50 million. The company has also continued to grow rapidly, even in the face of a slowing U.S. housing market, with 2007 year-over-year revenue increasing by 12%. BuildDirect's ongoing innovations ensure the company will continue to be a leader in BC's technology sector, and a global leader in the building products industry.

BuildDirect

Vancouver www.builddirect.com



Traffic Control Technology Creates "Tar Pit" for Spammers

City of Richmond employees were receiving an ever increasing volume of spam that was overloading their servers. IT staff struggled to keep email systems online in the face of this onslaught, but the use of more intensive content filtering led to many essential newsletters being blocked.

MailChannels provided a solution with its email Traffic Control™ technology, which manages heavy spam traffic imposed by bot networks of zombie computers (botnets). The company has applied traffic shaping — a network technique that interferes with traffic by selectively limiting bandwidth — to email, causing spam software to time out and move on to more vulnerable targets. Instead of merely blocking emails, the MailChannels system prevents spam from leaving the spammers' servers.

Traffic Control uses traffic shaping and other "reputation filtering" techniques to reduce spam by 50-75% more than current connection management techniques such as blacklisting and grey-listing, while also providing huge scalability benefits through careful management of mail server resources.

Research presented by MailChannels at the MIT Spam Conference shows that 90% of spammers abort email delivery attempts within 10 seconds of connecting to a server that severely restricts bandwidth to suspicious or illegitimate senders. Traffic Control exploits this characteristic spammer behaviour and others to provide the best possible reduction in spam traffic at the edge of the network — before downstream mail servers and end-users are harmed by excessive spam.

MailChannels was founded in 2004 by former employees of ActiveState (developers of one of the world's first enterprise anti-spam systems) to develop new techniques for fighting spam.

MailChannels

Vancouver www.mailchannels.com







MDA's radar technology is changing the way the world looks at itself. —Stephen Oldham Vice President, Space Missions and Robotics, MDA

Satellite System Establishes Canada as a World Leader in Commercial Radar Remote Sensing

In 1998, Macdonald, Dettwiler & Associates (MDA) was contracted by the Canadian Space Agency to design, build and operate RADARSAT-2, the most advanced commercial Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite in the world. In 2007 RADARSAT-2 was launched and is now fully operational, featuring a number of enhancements and technical innovations that have moved Canada far ahead of any other space nation in the area of commercial radar remote sensing.

The premier advantage of RADARSAT-2 is that it allows the satellite to capture images 24 hours a day, through darkness, heavy cloud cover, smoke and airborne pollutants, unlike optical satellites, which are dependent on sunlight to acquire images.

RADARSAT-2 uses an active sensor that sends electronic signals to the surface of the Earth and then receives the returned signals. High-resolution images are processed from these returned signals, and image data and value-added products are sold internationally to users representing a wide range of application areas.

Remote sensing is a means of capturing information from space about any location on the planet, and exploiting this data with computer applications that enable a better, deeper understanding of natural and man-made processes such as climate change, water resources and food production. This enables more effective decision making to protect and remediate the natural world while ensuring the safety and

security of billions of people. MDA's radar data has been used by Canada and many other governments in response to natural disasters and also to provide the routine data that our fishermen, resource economy and government need to make effective decisions that affect us all.

MDA's role in the RADARSAT-2 program has yielded multiple technological and economic impacts both locally and internationally, and will continue to do so now that the satellite is in space. The satellite will generate millions of dollars in data sales, value-added products, services and consulting contracts over the life of the mission.

MDA is now furthering its commercial radar leadership by developing a groundbreaking approach to building future radar satellites at considerably lower cost than those built to date. This new approach will make the benefits of radar remote sensing available to nations that were previously unable to afford the technology.

Understanding, protecting and rehabilitating our planet is now a collective endeavour. Empowering more nations with an affordable means of managing their own environments and natural resources will make a positive difference on a national and ultimately global level.

MDA

Richmond www.mdacorporation.com



MOST PROMISING START-UP

This award acknowledges an early-stage (less than 3 years old with 1-30 employees and less than \$3M in revenues) technology company with commercially available products that demonstrates significant potential, creativity and a promising future.

▼ FINALIST



Application Appliance Accelerates New Web Innovations

Too often companies must choose between developing new Web features to grow their businesses or tuning code to keep existing customers satisfied and protect the brand. The drive to solve this problem led directly to the establishment of Strangeloop Networks and the development of the Strangeloop AS1000 appliance.

Strangeloop's competitive advantage comes from its unique solution to this challenge. By combining software optimization techniques with the speed and agility of an intelligent network device, Strangeloop offers the only solution on the market that can automatically optimize dynamic Microsoft ASP.NET and AJAX applications in real time.

Today, Strangeloop has a single purpose: to make it easy and affordable for any company, large or small, to extend dynamic Web applications to thousands of users. As influential software vendors like Microsoft make it easier to develop powerful ASP.NET applications, Strangeloop is supporting these efforts by ensuring companies don't have to go back to the drawing board and rebuild their sites just because more people suddenly want to use them.

By freeing development teams around the world to focus on creating new features and services instead of tuning existing applications, Strangeloop could play an important role in accelerating new Web innovations that change businesses and lives in positive ways.

Today, Strangeloop sells the AS1000 appliance to customers around the globe using Microsoft ASP.NET and AJAX for their websites. Strangeloop's customers range from start-ups to large corporations, across all industries, including government, insurance and banking, healthcare, telecommunications and education organizations.

Strangeloop Networks Inc.

Vancouver www.strangeloopnetworks.com

FINALIST



Energy Management System Generates Environmental Benefits and Cost Savings

Buildings generate one-third of the world's GHG emissions and consume three-quarters of all electricity. There is a global demand for technologies that reduce energy consumption, as well as ensuring that energy is consumed when it can be produced and delivered at least cost.

Small Energy Group is building a scalable software system to meet the urgent need for increased intelligence in the management of energy demand. Involving a network of building-level data collection hubs combined with computing to analyze and display energy information for millions of buildings, this energy management system will be deployed globally.

The system will reduce energy used in buildings by optimizing the performance of existing energy systems and changing energy consumption behaviours. Its real-time database of energy use will help corporations and governments manage the complex carbon accounting process as the world makes the necessary shift to carbon neutrality. The system will also provide the information required to evaluate the effectiveness of major capital projects such as energy efficiency upgrades.

Small Energy Group was incorporated in 2006 and currently has ten full-time employees. The company works with a number of clients including a remote northern BC community, a major university campus and a mountain resort. Small Energy Group helped its first client, the Village of Hartley Bay, to reduce overall energy use and better manage electricity demand, with savings estimated at \$20,000-\$40,000 per year.

Small Energy Group Inc.

Vancouver www.smallenergygroup.com





RX Networks' innovative GPStream technology brings fast time to first fix. We use it with our new GPS chipsets for competitive mobile or personal navigation products. —Greg Winner, VP and GM, GPS, Atheros Communications

Vancouver Start-Up Takes a Leading Role in Worldwide Assisted-GPS Deployment

Rx Networks Inc. is a private mobile positioning technology and services company that develops mobile software and delivers data services designed to accelerate the location performance of any GPS-enabled device. Rx Networks helps mobile operators and device manufacturers deliver the best possible GPS user experience by accelerating and enhancing a device's ability to discover and calculate its location. To this end, the company has developed a unique service and technology framework called GPStream that is capable of delivering AGPS assistance data for virtually any real-time and/or synthetic assistance requirement.

Prior to Rx Networks, mobile operators and device manufacturers using Assisted-GPS techniques to improve Time-to-First-Fix and reception sensitivity of their GPS devices were limited to a few real-time or synthetic assistance data options. These were typically proprietary, either to a specific GPS chipset vendor or AGPS server vendor, thus leading to incompatibilities and integration issues. Furthermore, given their very similar architectures, synthetic AGPS techniques from competing chipset vendors are often disputed, exposing the device manufacturer to potential IP issues.

In preparation for the expected growth in the GPS-enabled mobile phone and personal navigation device market, most major network vendors and a growing number of GPS semiconductor vendors have either become resellers, licensees or technology partners of Rx Networks, including Nokia Siemens Networks, Qualcomm, Hewlett Packard, Ericsson AB, Andrew Corporation, STMicroelectronics NV and Atheros Communications.

Mobile operators are starting to actively launch new Location-Based Services using AGPS in 2008. For this customer segment, Rx Networks provides its GPStream Global Reference Network, a real-time AGPS reference data service used to feed the new AGPS industry standard now being implemented in most GSM and WCDMA networks and phones. This service is already being used by several operators, including TELUS and SoftBank KK in Japan. As the partner and supplier of choice for most network vendors, Rx Networks is poised to take on the primary enabling role in the deployment of AGPS in mobile networks.

For chipset and device manufacturers, Rx Networks prelaunched its patent-pending GPStream PGPS and SAGPS mobile software in December 2007 and has already secured two design wins and licensing agreements from leading GPS chipset vendors — STMicroelectronics NV and Atheros Communications — to embed its solutions in mobile phones and GPS consumer products, the first of which will be in Garmin's new suite of nüvi® personal navigation devices this summer. More design wins are expected throughout 2008 as Rx Networks' solutions are quickly becoming the preferred synthetic assistance data option compared to chipset proprietary alternatives.

In 2007, Rx Networks grew from one to six contracts and revenues of C\$511K. So far in 2008, the company has already exceeded this level and expects to generate about \$4M in sales bookings.

RX Networks Inc.

Vancouver www.rxnetworks.ca

TECHNOLOGY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

FAST FACTS

- BC's technology industry has reached a historical high, reporting a total of 22,474 technology companies in 2006.
- BC leads Canada in percentage growth of high-tech employment, reporting 74,590 workers in 2006.
- High technology GDP jumped 5.3% in 2006, climbing to over \$9.4 billion, the highest level ever recorded, and helping BC's high technology sector outperform the overall economy.
- Research and development tax incentives totalling 30% of qualified spending make BC an attractive place to do RED.
- The majority (69%) of BC's exports go to the U.S., with the European Union (13%) overtaking the Pacific Rim (11%) in 2006 as the second-largest destination.
- BC is the most connected province in Canada, with 7 out of every 10 households and 8 out of every 10 businesses having a computer and Internet access.
- For a decade the University of British Columbia has led Canada in the number of U.S. patents awarded and the gross income earned from technology licenses.
- The job growth rate of BC's high tech sector was 6.3% in 2006, higher than that of overall employment in the province.
- Vancouver was selected as the world's most "livable city" in a December 2007 survey of 132 cities by The Economist.
- The Port of Vancouver, which is Canada's busiest trade intersection, facilitates trade with more than 90 nations worldwide and ranks number one in North America for total foreign exports.
- BC technology companies promote a flexible and healthy working environment.
- BC is rich in cultural diversity, with over 90 languages spoken.
- BC has 25 public post-secondary institutions comprising university colleges, institutes, colleges and universities.

MAKING A GLOBAL IMAPCT

BC is home to a considerable number of global companies, most of which have an R\$D or operational presence in BC.

3M Touch Systems

Ballard Power Systems Inc.*

Boeing

Broadcom Corporation

Business Objects

CDC Software

Dolby Canada

Eastman Kodak

eBay

Electronic Arts

FCCA - A Daimler/Ford Joint Venture

Harman International Industries

Honeywell Video Systems

HSBC Group

IBM

Intel

MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates Ltd. (MDA)*

Microsoft Corporation

McKesson Corporation

Nokia

Open Solutions

Polycom

Plug Power

Phillips Lighting

Robert Bosch GmbH

Sage Group

Schneider Electric

Scientific Atlanta — a Cisco Company

Sierra Wireless*

Seiko Epson Corporation

Sophos

TELUS*

UTStarcom

Vivendi Universal

Walt Disney

SECTOR SNAPSHOTS

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Hardware, Software, Telecommunications, IP over Everything

- 7,244 companies
- 52,680 employees
- \$11.5 billion in revenue

LIFE SCIENCES

Pharmaceuticals, Medical Devices

- 179 companies
- 2,500 employees
- No revenue figures available

NEW MEDIA

Interactive Multimedia, Gaming, E-Learning

- 1,000 companies
- 15,000 employees
- \$2 billion in revenue

AEROSPACE

Engineering, Manufacturing, Training

- 190 companies
- 1,550 employees
- \$450 million in revenue

CLEAN TECH

Hydrogen; Fuel Cells; Power Electronics; Energy Storage; Wind, Ocean and Solar Power; Environmental Technologies

- 1,360 companies
- 22,000 employees
- \$2.5 billion in revenue

Data compiled from BC Stats, Profile of the British Columbia High Technology Sector (2007), Wireless in BC (2005), New Media BC, Aerospace Industry Association of BC, and Security Technology Snapshot (2006). Sectors contain overlapping data due to companies being listed in more than one sector.



EMERGING COMPANY OF THE YEAR

This award acknowledges an emerging company (over 3 years old with more than 30 employees and at least \$3M in revenues) demonstrating outstanding performance as a technology enterprise. This company is one that has growing revenues, is on track according to its business plan and has the potential of becoming a leader in its market.

▼ FINALIST

VISIONCRITICAL™

Market Research Innovator Helps Companies Gain Business Insight

Vision Critical started as a website development company doing Flash presentations and making regular text surveys a little more interesting. Since 2004, the company has increased its client base from 2 to more than 150 and its employee base by 150%, garnered 46% of the total online custom panel market and more than doubled its revenues in the last three years.

Vision Critical now powers more than 260 custom panels worldwide on its Web-based system, Panel+ $^{\text{TM}}$, which also integrates branded communities, providing a unique mix of quantitative and qualitative research.

Vision Critical's Panel+™ software enables companies to conduct all their online research through one system, from sampling to survey creation to reporting, and is flexible enough to manage communities of a few hundred to custom panels of a few million. Panel+ provides clients with real-time results of current studies and instant access to all previous studies, giving them the tools to gain deeper insights that can benefit their business.

Vision Critical has been recognized by Deloitte as one of the 500 fastest growing technology companies in North America, as well as receiving Microsoft's Gold Partner award, a rarity in market research.

With offices in Vancouver, Montreal, Toronto, San Francisco and London (UK), Vision Critical plans to expand locations across the globe within the next two years.

Vision Critical

Vancouver www.visioncritical.com

▼ FINALIST



Web-Based POS Innovator Gives Restaurateurs Unprecedented Freedom and Control

In a market plagued by failure, Vivonet provides the tools, information and knowledge restaurateurs need to be successful. Vivonet's Halo solution gives owners greater insight into their businesses, helping them make better business decisions.

Halo enables restaurateurs to access and manage their businesses from any location via the Internet. Prices and menu items can be changed for all locations instantly. Reports can be viewed in real time, giving business owners the flexibility to act on issues as they happen and enabling them to take more time away from their businesses.

Halo's Web-based architecture allows Vivonet to sell it for 50% less than traditional POS solutions. Other Web-based solutions are far too expensive and complex, making Vivonet's software-as-a-service offering the solution of choice.

For three consecutive years, Vivonet has been selected for the Rocket Builders "Ready to Rocket" list, which represents companies best positioned to capitalize on the information technology trends contributing to faster growth than the IT sector as a whole.

Vivonet's unique product, which offers vast improvements over traditional POS, has proven wildly popular. The company now has 700 customers and 1,200 terminals in more than 45 states (including Alaska and Hawaii) and 9 provinces.

Between 2002 and 2007, Vivonet's revenues grew from \$350,000 to more than \$3,000,000, and are expected to increase by more than 60% this year.

Vivonet Canada Inc.

Vancouver www.vivonet.com







The Day4 solar energy system enables immediate and ongoing economic savings while directly supporting sustainable organizational growth.

—John Murphy, President of Portland Habilitation Center Northwest

High Performance Solar Modules Provide Cost-Competitive Renewable Energy

Of all the environmentally sustainable renewable energy sources available today, photovoltaic (PV) electricity generation demonstrates the most promise; virtually unbound by limits of geography, the sun is the most reliable and available source of clean energy on the planet. Beyond the immediate and significant environmental benefits, the prospect of harvesting electricity from the sun delivers additional economic and social benefits in the form of energy independence, local job creation, and the growth of entirely new markets and industries.

Despite tremendous interest and potential, the prospect of harnessing the sun's energy to offset our planet's fossil fuel habit remains a relatively costly endeavour. Day4 Energy was founded in 2001 with the singular mission of shifting the economics of solar energy to cost parity with grid electricity pricing — a necessary milestone in the path to mainstream adoption.

High performance solar module manufacturer Day4 Energy is a rising star in British Columbia's growing solar energy market. The company has successfully commercialized an advanced PV technology − the Day4 Electrode™ − that replaces the decades-old method of module construction to solve the solar industry's existing efficiency bottleneck and enable next-generation technology innovation. The proprietary interconnection approach produces solar modules of improved performance, cost-efficiency, longevity and aesthetic appearance.

The history of Day4 Energy is one of combined academic and business acumen. Compelled by the magnitude of the energy problem and the potential of the electrode solution,

John MacDonald, former CEO and founder of Canadian aerospace leader MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates, professor Leonid Rubin and his son George Rubin founded Day4 Energy in 2001 to move from academic concept to full-scale commercial enterprise.

Less than six years later, the executive team has guided Day4 Energy through product development, commercial production, initial revenue generation and a successful public offering on the Toronto Stock Exchange in late 2007. Expanding its labour force from 34 employees at the end of 2006 to more than 100 today, the company is continuing to grow and drive the new clean energy economy in the Vancouver area.

With a management team strong in science and business, Day4 Energy works with industry partners to commercialize next-generation residential and commercial power generation products based on Day4's proprietary technology. End users of these systems include residential, commercial and utility organizations throughout Europe and North America.

Manufacturing and sale of Day4 Energy's solar products are helping to drive job growth and a flourishing clean technology economy in the Vancouver area, as well as raising awareness of PV technology within the Lower Mainland's business community, catalyzing a cycle of further renewable energy market expansion.

Day4 Energy Inc

Burnaby www.day4energy.com



COMPANY OF THE YEAR

This award acknowledges a company's supremacy in the technology industry. Winners of this award must show superior business development and revenue in excess of \$20M.

FINALIST



Local Company Transforms the International Mining Industry with Information Technology

Gemcom Software is at the convergence of two of BC's most important industries – high technology and mining – and is helping to drive opportunity and growth in each.

Mining companies today are dealing with tough challenges such as strong commodity demand, rising costs, stringent reporting requirements, industry consolidation and a shortage of skilled professionals. With the right technology and approach, Gemcom has become the industry's global partner of choice, enabling mining companies to sustain their businesses over the long term.

Always an innovator, Gemcom developed the first Windowsbased software system for the exploration and mining industry and pioneered the first database management and collaborative mining platform. Today, it delivers Mining Execution Systems (MES) that eliminate traditional silos in the work environment, providing mining companies with the geology, engineering and production information they need to manage costs, optimize productivity and increase profits.

In mining, information has traditionally been so difficult, time-consuming and costly to capture that it has rarely been used to its full potential in the decision-making process. Gemcom's solutions enable mines to run more efficiently, thus reducing environmental impacts.

Gemcom is the market leader in mining productivity solutions with a 40% global market share. Over 2,500 sites in more than 90 countries use its solutions. Gemcom also works with educational institutions in BC and globally to advance technology and address skills shortages in the mining industry.

The breadth of its software portfolio and ability to provide language-specific systems has ensured that every major mining company in the world is a Gemcom client.

Gemcom Software International Inc.

Vancouver www.gemcomsoftware.com

FINALIST



Connecting People Worldwide with Emerging Network Technologies

Since 1993, the Sierra Wireless team has connected people and workforces worldwide by offering seamless, easy-to-use wireless data technology. The company works with global customers to anticipate technology requirements and to help define wireless data trends.

Sierra Wireless is a leader in developing mobile computing adaptors, embedded modules, rugged mobile modems, M2M solutions and embedded software that outperform other products on the market. Since its inception, Sierra Wireless has garnered more than 60 U.S. and 106 international patents to support its innovations in product design, software and radio frequency technology.

In 2007, Sierra Wireless continued its strong market growth, establishing a presence in Japan, launching a new product line and making a strategic acquisition. The company also continued to hold the top position in the embedded mobile market with more than 40% of all shipments in 2006, as well as growing its revenue by 99% to a record \$439.9 million.

Sierra Wireless has built strong relationships with partners including AT&T, TELUS, HP and Cisco. The company has also penetrated global markets in more than 40 countries and on 84 networks worldwide, as well as making a strong contribution to the BC economy by creating jobs, generating economic activity and sponsoring community activities.

Sierra Wireless leverages its technical expertise to build products celebrated for their innovation, quality and reliability. The company was instrumental in developing some of the first wireless data devices and remains committed to creating new, innovative products and software for emerging network technologies that increase productivity.

Sierra Wireless

Richmond www.sierrawireless.com



Computrace COMPLETE Absolute Software Absolute Software

AbsoluteSoftware

With Computrace, we always know where our computers are. —Thuan Nguyen, Director of Information Technology, Kent School District

The Team has recently grown sales by 110% and doubled the company's subscriber base to 2.9 million. The company now counts nearly 3 million computer users among its active customer base and has recently increased the subscriber target to exceed 6 million in 2009, placing Absolute Software among the fastest-growing providers of software as a service on a worldwide basis.

Absolute Software has also expanded its employee ownership programs at a time when many other hightech companies have discontinued the practice, and sports one of the lowest employee turnover rates in the Canadian high-tech community at just 8% in 2007. During the same year, Absolute recruited an additional 90 employees — effectively capturing a disproportionately large proportion of the skilled technology workers available.

Absolute's Computrace software is embedded in the BIOS of computers by global leaders, including Dell, Fujitsu, Gateway, HP, Lenovo, Panasonic and Toshiba, and the company has reselling partnerships with these OEMs and others, including Apple. Computrace has saved thousands of customers from the damage, costs and frustration caused by stolen computers, along with the thousands of stakeholders who depend on Absolute's customers to safeguard their privacy.

Founded in 1993, with headquarters in Vancouver, Canada, and sales offices in the U.S., U.K., Australia and South Africa, Absolute serves corporate, education, government, healthcare, home office and consumer markets. The company owns 14 patents, with 13 others pending, and has more than 250 employees.

Absolute Software Corporation

Vancouver www.absolute.com

A Leader in Computer Theft Recovery, Data Protection and Secure Asset Tracking Solutions

Mobile computing has created significant security and management challenges, increasing the risk of sensitive personal and proprietary information falling into the wrong hands. Within government and corporate segments, nearly 40% of compromised personal data records are from lost or stolen laptops.

The early success of Absolute Software can be attributed to its unique Computrace® solution, which is the only commercially available technology that combines the ability to track and report on mobile computers regardless of their location, remotely delete sensitive data from lost or stolen computers and physically recover computers that go missing.

The major differentiator for Computrace is its ability to provide powerful IT asset management capabilities on computers that are disconnected from the local area network. Computrace is also the only IT asset management system that is backed by a fully-licensed Theft Recovery Team, staffed by former police officers.

Another key driver of Absolute's success is its strong management team, whose recent achievements include:

- Rapidly expanding computer manufacturer partnerships
- Scaling the business internationally
- Expanding Absolute's product portfolio to include capabilities for new computers and devices
- Leveraging the company's technology to serve as a platform for delivering other solutions

The Absolute Software Sales and Marketing Team is also core to the company's successful execution.



2008 TEAM OF THE YEAR

This award acknowledges a team of individuals in any department, working at a non-executive level, who have made a significant contribution to the overall success of their organization during the past year. The team's achievement must be measurable and tangible, and is not limited to the development or delivery of technology.

2008 WINNER



Team Combines Quantitative and Qualitative Research Capability for Superior Marketing Intelligence

The Community and Qualitative Team at Vision Critical built from scratch a number of products that offer online communities and research service packages to enhance the company's technological capabilities. The team's innovative blending of qualitative and quantitative research capabilities has helped position Vision Critical as a global leader in online interactive research.

Vision Critical's core product, Panel+(tm), is a Web-based platform for developing, conducting and managing online research. The Community and Qualitative Team has enhanced the solution by recommending online community capabilities, placing the solution ahead of the competition. The Team has also created a research service package called Domino to match the technological capabilities.

An online community is a version of an ongoing focus group with open access 24/7 on the Internet. Communities provide market researchers with direct access to the customer perspective without filters, which gives clients a wealth of information surrounding trendspotting, ideation and product or concept testing.

With Panel+[™] we are able to gain an incredible amount of insight on our subscribers that assists us in all facets of our operations.

—Geoff Day, Senior Marketing Manager, SIRIUS Satellite Radio Canada

Domino delivers fresh insights and deeper understandings of consumers' culture and lifestyle. This methodology includes expert interviews, community interaction, ethnography and videography, enabling clients to understand the socio-cultural, technological, economical, environmental and political contexts of their consumers.

The Community and Qualitative Team have put a spotlight on the possibilities of qualitative research and are sharing best practices across Vision Critical. Some researchers are suggesting qualitative solutions to their clients when they never would have considered it before.

Vision Critical's technology has changed dramatically with the input of the Qualitative and Community Team, giving clients more flexibility and better insights into their consumer base. The work of the Team generated more than 10% of Vision Critical's net revenues in 2007.

Vision Critical

Vancouver www.visioncritical.com

FINALIST



Integration Team Sets Industry Speed Record and Cuts Processing Costs by Over 50%

In December 2007, Payment Processing Inc. (PPI) signed an agreement with First Data Merchant Services to move the majority of PPI's transaction volume to that processor.

The problem was that a significant number of PPI's clientele are integrated through the PPI PayMover Payment Platform, which did not support a viable connection to First Data.

Team Highlander, named after the 1986 film with the tagline,

"there can be only one," was assembled to integrate the necessary connectivity into the existing payment platform.

An extremely aggressive goal was set to complete the integration by March 2008 – far quicker than any integration that First Data had ever done. By successfully meeting this deadline, Team Highlander established PPI as an expert technology organization in the payments industry.

The strategic benefits of this accomplishment were not only setting a new record for the industry and First Data, but also reducing PPI's processing costs by more than 50%.

This project enabled thousands of PPI's merchants and partners to process transactions without re-integrating or re-certifying to the PPI Paymover Platform, as well as saving an enormous amount of time for PPI and its partners.

Payment Processing Inc.

Whistler www.paypros.com

2008 BCTIA PERSON OF THE YEAR

This award is presented to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the technology industry during the year. Criteria for this award include contribution to the technology industry, reputation, leadership and vision, demonstration of exemplary skills, mentorship, career success, execution style and International activities.



A Technology Visionary and Pioneer

Dr. John MacDonald is one of the most prominent leaders of BC's technology industry, with a global reputation as a technology visionary and pioneer. In 1969 he co-founded MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates, Canada's principal space company and a global leader in information solutions. MDA's success was a catalyst for the nascent BC Technology industry, driving its subsequent build-out and international reputation.

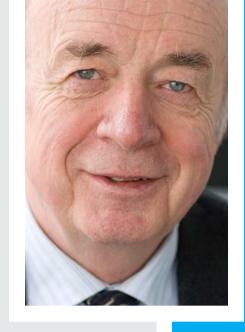
Day4 Energy is the latest success in John's prolific career. He co-founded the company in 2001 to design, manufacture and sell photovoltaic modules using proprietary technology. By 2007 Day4 Energy had one of the largest IPOs in Canada that year, raising more than \$100 million and confirming not only Dr. MacDonald's unerring business vision but also establishing Vancouver's reputation in the emerging Clean Technology sector.

In addition to his work as a technology pioneer, John has been active in academia with more than 12 years as a faculty member at UBC and MIT, and has acted as an advisor to governments and businesses across the globe on science, technology, trade and industrial policy.

Among his many contributions to the industry, John has served as a member of the National Research Council of Canada, the BC Premier's Advisory Council on Science and Technology, and the National Advisory Board on Science and Technology. He is a founding fellow of both the Canadian Academy of Engineering and the Science Council of BC, and currently serves on Task 8 of the Photovoltaic Power Systems Program of the International Energy Agency.

John is an officer of the Order of Canada and was inducted into the Business Laureates of British Columbia Hall of Fame in 2006. In 2000, he was awarded the John H. Chapman Excellence Award, the Canadian Space Agency's highest recognition.

John's passionate contributions to science and technology have pushed the industry forward, and helped to advance British Columbia's reputation as a high technology centre of innovation.



John MacDonald has helped establish a thriving high technology industry in British Columbia through his commitment to continued innovation and value creation, as well as developing and inspiring talented teams.

—Daniel Friedmann, CEO, Macdonald, Dettwiler & Associates



LEADERSHIP IN SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

This award acknowledges a company that has achieved an exceptional standard of performance in its overall approach to corporate social and/or environmental responsibility; or deployed an innovative project, process or business practice that sets a new standard for social responsibility in the technology sector.

2008 WINNER



Victoria Company Provides Community Support and Environmental Leadership

AbeBooks.com, the world's largest online marketplace for books, supports a wide variety of charitable activities and literacy initiatives, as well as offering a progressive work environment and showing environmental leadership in its day-to-day business practices.

AbeBooks.com supports fun, hands-on charitable activities, including house building for "Habitat for Humanity" and annually rappelling down Victoria's tallest building to raise money for the BC Lions Society Drop-Zone.

To promote literacy, AbeBooks.com supports a Story Laboratory book-making program for children, an annual writing contest for young people, a children's literacy camp in Vancouver and various literary festivals.

Working with VIATeC, AbeBooks.com mentors smaller firms and start-ups and supports visits to high schools to talk about local high-tech opportunities. Other talent-building initiatives include a student bursary at Camosun College and a co-op program with UVIC.

AbeBooks.com is easy to navigate and ordering is straightforward. I was overjoyed to find some obscure, out-of-print titles that were much needed for some of my projects — Seanna Takacs, Vancouver, BC

AbeBooks' nationally acclaimed human resources program offers a relaxed culture where employees are trusted to complete their work without regulated hours and rigid structure, as well as extensive healthcare benefits and employee wellness programs. The company also engages in a broad spectrum of progressive environmental protection measures, including:

- Free bus passes and bonuses for those who walk or cycle to work
- Extensive recycling and composting
- Donating old server hardware to a non-profit society

AbeBooks.com is a private company headquartered in Victoria, with offices in Germany and the USA.

AbeBooks.com

Victoria www.abebooks.com

FINALIST Westport

INNOVATIONS INC.

Local Alternative Fuel Company Provides Global Sustainability Leadership

Westport Innovations is leading the shift to global sustainability by providing technologies that allow engines to operate on clean-burning alternative fuels. In addition to creating environmental benefits through its product offerings, Westport has implemented a number of sustainability leadership initiatives, including working with Canadian Business for Social Responsibility to develop a climate change resource guide for Canadian businesses.

Westport Innovations also implements systems and processes to mitigate the environmental impacts of its operations and testing activities. The most significant of

these is the liquefied natural gas (LNG) injection system, which has resulted in greenhouse gas emissions reductions of more than 16,000 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent and more than \$300,000 in cost savings since 2003.

Westport is a conscientious employer, offering flexible work arrangements, as well as actively promoting employee wellness initiatives, opportunities for professional development and community volunteerism. Westport has established IMPACT, an employee leadership team with its four pillars of Give, Learn, Help and Teach, to drive community engagement and enrichment and facilitate charitable giving. IMPACT tackles problems related to poverty, the environment and education.

In 2007, Westport Innovations was named among the Corporate Knights Cleantech 10, Canada's 10 finest clean technology companies.

Westport Innovations Inc.

Vancouver www.westport.com

2008 BILL THOMPSON AWARD

Awarded at the discretion of the BCTIA Board of Directors, this award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated the highest level of leadership in BC's technology industry throughout their business career and who has served as a model and mentor for others in the technology community.



DAVID SUTCLIFFE

Exemplifying Leadership in Business and the Community

With a career in the technology industry spanning more than 25 years, David Sutcliffe has established himself as an outstanding leader and mentor both within the industry and the wider community.

David studied Computer Science at UBC before entering the industry with Sydney Development in 1980. He joined Motorola's Mobile Data Division in 1988 and served as Vice President and Business Unit Manager. He joined Xillix Technologies as CEO in 1992 and transformed the company from a group of BC Cancer Agency-affiliated R&D projects to a publicly-listed operating company.

David served as the CEO of Sierra Wireless from 1995 through 2005, growing the company from revenues of a few million to more than 200 million dollars. Under David's leadership, Sierra Wireless won Technology Impact Awards for Excellence in Product Innovation twice, New Venture of the Year, Company of the Year and Leadership in Social Responsibility.

David played an instrumental role in the development of the wireless data industry and served on the boards of influential industry associations including the Wireless Data Forum and the Cellular Telecommunications Industry Association, where he was honored with a President's Award.

In addition to providing technology industry leadership, David works on behalf of the surrounding community. He served on the Premier's Technology Council and is a past chair of Acetech, a CEO mentoring organization which named him as one of only six Fellows. He served as the founding chair of BC Technology Social Venture Partners and currently serves as chair of E-Comm911, a non-profit corporation that provides 911 call answer, dispatch and wide-area radio emergency communications services for Southwestern BC. He and his wife Gaylean are active supporters of Science World.

Through his ongoing commitment to professional mentorship and his ability to draw the very best from everyone around him, David has been instrumental in developing and nurturing new technology leaders and encouraging community involvement among his employees and his peers.

David has helped develop the next generation of BC's technology leaders.
—Ken Spencer, CREO



PAST WINNERS

Most Promising Pre-Commercial Technology

2007 Nutri-Loc Corporation

2006 TIR Systems Ltd.

2005 Ascalade Communications Inc.

Excellence in Product Innovation

2007 Top Producer Systems Inc.

2006 Paradigm Environmental Technologies Inc.

2005 Apparent Networks

Best Application of Technology

2007 In Motion Technology Inc.

2006 MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates

2005 PureEdge Solutions

Most Promising Startup

2007 Mobidia Technology Inc.

2006 EQO Communications Inc.

2005 Dyaptive Systems

Emerging Company of the Year

2007 Digital Payment Technologies Corporation

2006 Delta-Q Technologies Corp.

2005 AbeBooks.com

Company of the Year

2007 Carmanah Technologies Corporation

2006 Teligence Communications Inc.

2005 MacDonald, Dettwiler & Associates

Leadership in Social Responsibility

2007 JDQ Systems Inc.

2006 IBM Canada

2005 Westport Innovations Inc.

Person of the Year

2007 Greg Peet

2006 Ralph Turfus, former Chairman & CEO of Class Software Solutions

2005 Amos Michelson, former CEO of Creo

Team of the Year (new in 2005)

2007 Business Objects

2006 EDS Advanced Solutions, Revenue Services Team

2005 Creo Inc.

Bill Thompson Award (awarded at the discretion of the BCTIA Board of Directors)

2005 Dr. Don Rix

2004 Morgan Sturdy

2001 Haig Farris

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The BCTIA wishes to recognize and thank the following sponsors for their support of the 2008 Technology Impact Awards.















Most Promising Pre-Commercial Technology Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP

Excellence in Product Innovation British Columbia Innovation Council

Best Application of Technology Deloitte

Most Promising Start-Up GO Recruitment

Emerging Company of the Year PricewaterhouseCoopers

Company of the Year Ernst & Young LLP

Team of the Year $\ensuremath{\mathsf{INTEQNA}}$

Leadership in Social Responsibility Sun Microsystems

Person of the Year Holloway Schulz & Partners

VIP Reception Bull, Housser & Tupper LLP • Ray & Berndtson

Winner's Circle Kodak

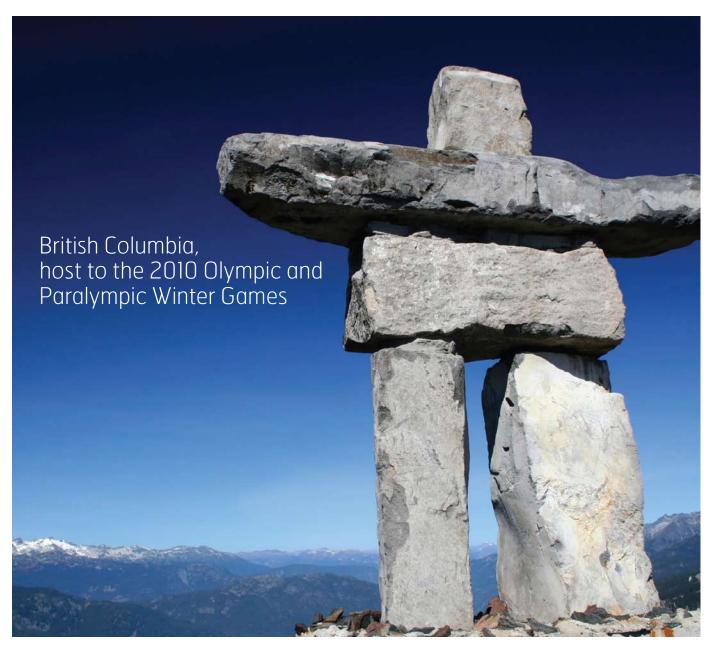
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