

BEPOLUX PRIZE

BEPOLUX, the Belgian Polish Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce, dedicated the price for the best Belgian company in Poland to Vlassenroot Polska in Gliwice.

This price is an initiative of Bepolux in association with BNP Paribas Fortis and it was set up to appreciate Belgian and Luxembourg companies for their remarkable performances in Poland.

The price aims to be an incentive for new Belgian Luxembourg venture initiatives on the Polish market and to contribute to the visibility of Bepolux to still more companies in Belgium, Luxembourg and Poland.

More than 600 Belgian ventures are already present as an investor or exporter - importer on the Polish market. The strong growth rate of the Polish economy continues to offer a large business potential to foreign companies.

With its initiative BEPOLUX wants to motivate still more Belgian and Luxembourg ventures to exploit the opportunities of the Polish market.

The jury was chaired by Baron Bernard Snoy et d'Oppuers former director EBRD; other members were Count Georges Jacobs de Hagen, Chairman of Bepolux and former chairman of the Federation of Belgian Enterprises; Jaroslaw Bauc (PL), vice chairman of the board of directors of BNP Paribas Polska and former Minister of Finance in Poland; Paul Peeters, Head of Commercial Banking BNP Paribas Fortis, and J.M. De Baerdemaeker, managing director Bepolux as secretary of the jury.

In this first edition of the price the jury especially wanted to reward companies with a longer track record on the Polish market. In its appreciation the jury took into account future vision, contribution to technological renewal in the Polish industrial landscape and the long term impact on the social economic conversion in Poland. Among the many candidates five nominees were selected.

CFE POLSKA Sp z o.o. in Warsaw, subsidiary company of CFE SA in Brussels, has been present in Poland since 1996 as a construction company, and covers a vast range of construction activities: commercial, residential and industrial buildings, hotels and office buildings, as well as road and bridge construction.

FAST TERMINALS in Szczecin, subsidiary from FAST LINES BELGIUM in Antwerp have grown since 1990 from a partnership with the Szczecin port authorities to full ownership. This pre-eminently family owned company knows to combine commercial development, investment policy, modern technology and ecology. The group offers a wide range of port facilities and focuses on coast to coast transport.

GHELAMCO POLSKA, in Warsaw, of the same group in Ieper, started already in 1991 on the Polish market, initially as potential source of construction materials, but developed since as a leading real estate investor and project developer in office construction, residential and distribution sector, retail, logistics and leisure. With creative designs Ghelamco contributes to shaping the new skyline of Warsaw and other Polish cities.

LIGNA Sp z o.o. in Olkusz, subsidiary company of ANG SA in Oudenaarde has been set up, from scratch in 1994, and produces, with its 80 staff members, a wide range of metal containers for waste

collection and recycling. The high quality of the products meets the requirements of the export market.

VLASSENROOT POLSKA Sp z o.o., subsidiary of Vlassenroot group from Groot- Bijgaarden, started green field in 2006, in Gliwice, Silesia, the industrial heart of Poland and developed since into a referential company in the region with more than 500 employees. The company has unique know how in laser cutting, folding and welding of steel plates for the production of telescopic arms of cranes and other applications.

Among these nominees VLASSENROOT POLSKA Sp z o.o. was chosen as “The best Belgian Company in Poland” award winner and received an art work of the Polish artist Jacek Byczewski, offered with the support of BNP Paribas Fortis in Brussels.

In its motivation the jury took into consideration Vlassenroot’s significant technological innovation, import of know how to Poland and contribution to the modernization to the polish industry; the fact that the company has invested in an own technical school which is open to third parties and is engaging in cooperation with a local university, the creation of important direct employment with significant importance for the economic conversion and social progress in the region, the turnaround performance of the company, the substantial contribution to the Polish export and thereby to Polish global economy. With its the world leadership in its core production Vlassenroot Polska delivers a remarkable contribution to the international visibility and reputation of the Polish industry.

The BEPOLUX PRIZE 2012 will be dedicated to “The best Polish Company in Belgium”.

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