



Attention Business, Economics and Technology Editors and Reporters

13 B.C. Companies Make Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List

Toronto – October 17, 2006 Thirteen British Columbia firms made *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List 2006*, released today by Research Infosource Inc. Together they invested \$693.6 million in R&D activities in fiscal 2005, and increase of 14.1% over the \$608 million spent in 2004. In total, Canada's top 100 corporate R&D companies invested \$12 billion in R&D activities, up 4.9% over the previous year.

"B.C. posted the highest increase in R&D spending of all the regions", says Ron Freedman, CEO of Research Infosource Inc. "although revenues rose by only 6.9%, R&D spending went up by 14.1%."

#16 TELUS Corporation moved up from 38th place with a 120.5% jump in R&D spending, investing \$125 million in fiscal 2005, up from \$56.7 million in 2004.

#22 PMC Sierra came up one spot with a 7% increase in spending, going from \$96.3 million to \$103 million.

#29 Ballard Power Systems falls from 17th place with 23.4% decline in R&D investments, dropping from \$119.4 million in 2004 to \$91.5 million in 2005.

#30 QLT Inc. moves up two places from 32nd spot with a 16.3% increase in R&D spending, going from \$77.7 million in 2004 to \$90.4 million in 2005.

#48 MacDonald Dettwiler and Associates Ltd. holds steady with a 13.3% jump in R&D investments, going from \$43.3 million to \$49 million.

#54 Cardiome Pharma Corp. slips 3 spots from 51st despite a 7.2% increase in R&D spending, going from \$38.7 million to \$41.5 million.

#58 Angiotech Pharmaceuticals Inc. moved one spot down from 57th despite a 9.8% hike in R&D expenditures, investing \$38.8 million in 2005 up from \$35.3 million in 2004.

#60 Sierra Wireless drops 5 places from 55th with a 0.6% increase in R&D spending, going from \$37.7 million in 2004 to \$37.9 million in 2005.

#64 Aspreva Pharmaceuticals Corporation moves into the top 100 from 108th position with a stellar 175% jump in R&D spending from \$13.4 million in 2004 to \$36.7 million in 2005.

#78 Westport Innovations Inc. dropped from 59th spot with a 28.5% decline in R&D spending, posting \$24.4 million in R&D spending in 2005, down from \$34.1 million in 2004.

#84 Stressgen Biotechnologies Corporation falls from 75th spot with a 19.9% decrease in R&D spending, investing \$20.8 million in 2005 down from \$25.9 million in 2004.

#86 AnorMED inc. moves on to the top 100 list from 101st position with a 32.1% increase in R&D expenditures in 2005, spending \$19.6 million, up from \$14.8 million.

#97 Xantrex Technology Inc. moves up three places from 100 with a modest 1.2% increase in R&D spending to \$15.1 million in 2005, up from \$14.9 million in 2004.

Examining the regional picture, British Columbia's 13 top 100 companies accounted for \$693.6 million in R&D spending or 6% of the total for fiscal 2005. This represents an increase of 14.1%. For the Prairies, 10 companies in Alberta spent \$519.1 million for 4% of the total and an increase of 4.1% with Manitoba's single entry on the list chalking up \$43 million in R&D expenditures. Ontario and Quebec based firms accounted for the lion's share of R&D spending. With 55% of the total, Ontario's 44 companies invested \$6.6 billion in R&D in fiscal 2005, up 1.7% from the previous year. Removing Nortel from the calculation moves Ontario companies' growth in R&D spending to an impressive 10.6%. The 30 companies in Quebec spent \$4.1 billion for 34% of the total and a strong increase of 7.2%.

Looking at various industry sectors, communications/telecom accounted for 26% of R&D investments in fiscal 2005, pharmaceuticals/biotechnology (16%), telecommunications services also (16%), aerospace (8%), software and computer services (7%), automotive (7%), energy/oil and gas (6%), computer equipment 4%, mining and metals (3%), electronic parts and components (2%).

The complete *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List 2006* is available on the Research Infosource website, www.researchinfosource.com. An in-depth *Canada's Top Corporate R&D Spenders Report 2006*, based on over 650 companies, is slated for publication later this year. Research Infosource Inc., a division of The Impact Group, is Canada's source of R&D intelligence. Drawing from an extensive database, Research Infosource Inc. publishes *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List*, *Canada's Top 50 Research Universities List*, and specialized reports.

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