

13 BC Firms Make Canada's Top 100 R&D Spenders List According to Research Infosource Inc.

Toronto - October 20, 2009 – Thirteen B.C. firms made *Canada's Top 100 R&D Spenders List* released today by Research Infosource Inc. www.researchinfosource.com. Together they invested \$664.5 million in research and development (R&D) in fiscal 2008, up 5.6% from \$629.3 million the previous year. Overall Canadian companies spent \$10.09 billion in fiscal 2008, a decrease of -0.2% over 2007.

B.C. Companies

Rank 2008	Rank 2007	Company	% Change in Revenue 2007-2008	% Change in R&D Spending 2007-2008	Total R&D Spending 2008
11	26	TELUS	6.4	147.1	\$210 million
28	20	PMC Sierra	-9.3	-18.5	\$73.5 million
35	38	Angiotech Pharmaceuticals	-2.3	-2.2	\$56.7 million
41	57	Sierra Wireless	27.9	23.2	\$51.5 million
46	40	Cardiome Pharma	-67.1	-14.1	\$48.8 million
49	45	MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates	-3.0	-10.5	\$46.4 million
52	35	Ballard Power Systems	-9.8	-37.0	\$39.6 million
63	47	QLT	-3.7	-36.8	\$31.5 million
72	76	Westport Innovations	18.3	-1.3	\$26.7 million
80	66	Teck Resources	8.4	-28.1	\$23 million
91	49	Vifor Pharma, Aspreva International	-89.2	-61.2	\$18.5 million
97	138	Tekmira Pharmaceuticals	-25.6	100.2	\$16.8 million
84	89	Azure Dynamics	173.2	20.8	\$21.5 million

"Unfortunately, 9 of 13 B.C. firms cut back on their R&D spending last year", said Ron Freedman, CEO of Research Infosource. "Undoubtedly, declining revenues played a large part in their decisions, but the result is nonetheless disappointing."

Regional Picture

Looking at R&D spending by region for 2008, British Columbia's 13 firms spent \$664.5 million, up 5.6% from \$629.3 million in 2007. In Alberta, 11 companies on the Top 100

list posted R&D expenditures of \$490 million in 2008, up 5.9% from \$462.9 million in 2007. Two Manitoba based companies (Cangene Corporation and Medicure Inc.) made the list together posting \$90.9 million in R&D spending in 2008 compared to \$53.7 million in 2007, an increase of 69.2%. In Ontario, 42 companies made the list, spending \$5.68 billion on R&D in 2008, up 2.3% from 2007's figure of \$5.56 billion. R&D spending declined in Québec, with their 31 firms down -7.5% from \$3.38 billion in 2007 to \$3.12 billion in 2008. New Brunswick-based Bell Aliant was the only firm from the Atlantic Provinces to make the list, posting \$33.8 million in R&D spending an increase of 42.7% in fiscal 2008.

Industry Sectors

The Communications/telecommunication sector dominated Top 100 spending again in fiscal 2008. Together these eleven firms accounted for 27% of total R&D spending, an increase of 1.5%. Leaving Nortel Networks out of the equation, the remaining 10 firms posted a very impressive 26.3% increase in R&D expenditures. The Pharmaceuticals/biotechnology sector was next in total spending with their 31 firms accounting for 19% of total R&D spending. Four companies in the Telecommunications services sector were responsible for 13% of Top 100 spending. The Aerospace sector accounted for 8% of spending, Automotive 7% and Software and computer services 7%.

Gainers and Losers

Ten companies on the Top 100 list posted increases of over 60% in R&D spending in fiscal 2008. Leading the pack was Allen-Vanguard with a whopping 263.5% jump in R&D spending, followed by ArcelorMittal Dofasco with a 151.9% increase in 2nd place, TELUS with 147.1 % in 3rd, Husky Energy at 122.2% in 4th and rounding out the top 5 is Cangene with 104.7%. Several well-know firms posted significant declines in R&D spending, including Ballard Power Systems, down -37.0%, QLT down -36.8%, Tembec down -29.9% and Teck Resources down -28.1%.

The complete *Canada's Top 100 Corporate R&D Spenders List 2009* is available on the Research Infosource website, www.researchinfosource.com. 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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