

## **Groupe Lacasse awarded at the Grands Prix québécois de la qualité**

**Québec's Premier Jean Charest awards companies for the outstanding quality  
of their management and overall performance**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**St. Pie, Quebec, Canada (October 24, 2008)** - Groupe Lacasse, a North American pioneer in the design, manufacture and service of a broad range of high-quality office furniture products, has been awarded a Mention for the outstanding quality of its management and overall business performance.

The awards ceremony was held before 1,000 business managers and strategic workers at the Montreal Palais des Congrès during Événement Qualité 2008. Québec's Premier Jean Charest was joined by the Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade and Minister of Tourism, Raymond Bachand; the president of Bell Aliant (Québec and Ontario) and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Mouvement québécois de la qualité, Roch L. Dubé; and the President of the Grands Prix québécois de la qualité awards jury and professor at the HEC Montréal Department of Management, Jean-Marie Toulouse.

Québec has had a world-class system for rewarding business excellence for the past ten years. Inaugurated in 1998, the Grands Prix québécois de la qualité are on par with other international awards such as the Deming Award (Japan), the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award (United States), and the European Quality Award.

“At a time of economic uncertainty, improvements to management and production methods and the implementation of new innovations are powerful tools that can help companies remain competitive and overcome market fluctuations,” stated Minister of Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade Minister of Tourism Raymond Bachand.

Groupe Lacasse is lead by a multidisciplinary team pushing forth a leadership vision. The team inspires and orients the efforts of all Groupe Lacasse members to improve on the company's profitability, efficiency and prosperity. Groupe Lacasse engages members, processes and employs resources to provide sustainable and adaptable workspace

solutions in a manner which protects and restores our environment, creates economic value, and supports and strengthens its communities.



**Large Manufacturing Company**

**Category: GROUPE LACASSE**

Jean-Pierre Gilardeau, President of Alcoa Canada Islande, Sebastien Ross, Groupe Lacasse Vice-President of Operations and Gilles Demers from the Economic Development, Innovation and Export Trade

“We never stop looking for ways to work more intelligently and efficiently, whether it is by pursuing sustainable practices, through product development, or exploring innovative ideas,” says Sébastien Ross, Groupe Lacasse VP of Operations. “It is high levels of best management practices, passion and dedication which has made Groupe Lacasse a pioneer over the last 52 years, and will keep us successful over the next 50.”

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**About Groupe Lacasse**

Groupe Lacasse, based in St. Pie, Quebec, Canada, is a North American leader in the design, manufacture and service of a broad range of high-quality office furniture products under the Lacasse, United Chair and Nvision brands. Founded in 1956, Groupe Lacasse offers advanced design and value products in laminate office furniture, steel storage and filing, workplace systems and seating. The company has manufacturing facilities throughout North America. For more information, visit [www.groupelacasse.com](http://www.groupelacasse.com).

**Groupe Lacasse is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Haworth Inc.**