

“Trends Gazelles” recognizes exceptional growth

Hill & Knowlton International Belgium almost doubles turnover since 2003

Brussels, May 27th 2009 – Hill & Knowlton International Belgium s.a./n.v has been listed as one of the ‘Trends Gazelles’ for 2009. The 200 companies, which are awarded the name ‘Gazelle’ are a group of fast growing companies, selected annually by weekly economic magazine Trends/Trends-Tendances. The ‘Gazelles’ include organizations which have helped to create jobs and have contributed to the overall innovation, competitiveness and creative entrepreneurship in their region. Hill & Knowlton is listed in the category of medium-sized companies in the Brussels region; the title is recognition for the firm’s exceptional growth since 2003.

Since 2003, Hill & Knowlton in Belgium has increased its revenue from € 7 million to over € 12 million. As turnover rose, so did the number of employees with almost 50% to 65 consultants today, who advise and guide companies, associations and governments in their communications strategies.

“We are very happy with this recognition. It is the result of the continued efforts of our entire team,” said Elaine Cruikshanks, CEO Hill & Knowlton International Belgium. “This award is proof of our ambition to deliver top-consultancy in public relations and lobbying. Our clients clearly appreciate our work and the growth of our agency is a clear confirmation of that. We are very grateful to them for their continued trust in us.”

Engaging the best talent is key for Hill & Knowlton to being and remaining the best communications agency in Belgium. Just recently Carmen Vroonen and Dimitri Schildmeijer joined the International Corporate Communications department. Carmen previously worked as Director Corporate Communications at Mc Donald’s Europe, where she developed internal and external communications strategies; she has over 15 years of communications experience in the health & food sector. Dimitri joined from ExxonMobil where he was Communication Manager EMEA; he has more than 12 years experience in Belgian and international corporate communications. Both new hires bring valuable expertise from the services sector and industry to Hill & Knowlton.

Over the past few months, Hill & Knowlton added several new clients to the Belgian portfolio including: Alpro, Solvay Pharmaceuticals, Chiquita, Bonduelle, European Brain Council, Alken-Maes, Amgen, Novartis, e.l.f. and Wrigley. We are certain that thanks to our loyal existing customers and these new assignments Hill & Knowlton Belgium has a bright future ahead.

For more information about us, visit our website: www.hillandknowlton.be

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About Hill & Knowlton International Belgium s.a./n.v.

Hill & Knowlton International Belgium s.a./n.v. was founded in 1967 and serves more than 100 clients with public affairs and public relations services, including leading corporations, trade associations, governments & diplomatic missions and EU institutions. Hill & Knowlton International Belgium also maintains strong ties with the EU institutions and Member State governments. Closely linked with federal and regional Belgian authorities, H&K Brussels functions as a hub for international corporate communications network coordination, and offers a proven corporate and crisis communications expertise. Hill & Knowlton International Belgium offers the full range of public relations and public affairs services and is the largest PA/PR agency in Belgium and the 3rd largest globally in the Hill & Knowlton network.

About H&K Worldwide

Hill & Knowlton, Inc. is a leading international communications consultancy, providing services to local, multinational and global clients. The firm is headquartered in New York, with 74 offices in 42 countries, as well as an extensive associate network. The agency is part of WPP, one of the world's largest communications services groups.

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