

Business earns prestigious national award;

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FULL TEXT

A local food processing business was earlier this year recognized as one of Canada's best managed companies.

Grand River Foods, which has a facility in Paris as well as in Cambridge and Beamsville, made the list of the top 50 best-managed companies in Canada.

Canada's 50 best managed companies is the country's leading national business awards program. It recognizes excellence in Canadian-owned and managed companies with revenues over \$1 million.

The program is sponsored by Deloitte, CIBC Commercial Banking, the National Post and Queen's School of Business. Hundreds of companies are judged by a rigorous and independent process that evaluates the calibre of their management abilities and practices.

"As a practice leader in food processing, I work with many excellent companies in Canada," said Jack Slibar of Deloitte, said.

"But Grand River Foods rose to the top for the judges on the company's innovation capacity, culture and its distinctive strategies for growth and customer service."

A fast-growing company, the success of Grand River Foods is the result of a flexible and responsive business model that anticipates customer need for innovative food products and efficiently meets demands for fresh chickens.

After learning the company had made the top 50 list, Grand River Foods president Craig Richardson said it was a tribute to the company's leaders, managers and its more than 500 employees.

"We believe we are judged by the company we keep and have worked hard to build strong relationships with our customers and our people," Richardson said in a statement. "To now be acknowledged and in the company of the other top 50 companies will inspire us on to further achievements in 2009."

Formerly known as Grand River Poultry and a supplier of processed chicken for more than 20 years, the company is now a multi-protein food company. It bills itself as a producer of innovative food products and solutions for the grocery and food services industry.

The company has more than 500 employees at its three Ontario facilities.

Grand River Foods

Company Name: Grand River Foods
Address 334 Grand River St. N. Paris, Beamsville and Cambridge
Employees: 500-plus Website: www.grandriverfoods.com
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