NEWS RELEASE
Jim McCullagh Receives CSTA Seed Achievement Award

Jim McCullagh receives the 2007 Seed Achievement Award from CSTA President Dorothy Murrell

Ottawa, July 25, 2007 - Jim McCullagh is the 2007 recipient of the Canadian Seed Trade Association Seed Achievement Award.

The Canadian Seed Trade Association Seed Achievement Award recognizes and honours significant contributions to the Canadian seed industry. It is presented to an individual engaged in a private seed business or public institution based in Canada.

Jim McCullagh is the Executive Director of the Canadian Seed Institute (CSI), and Canadian Systems Integration. The CSI delivers accreditation and monitoring programs for the Canadian seed industry. Recognized by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, CSI has been given the mandate to be the single point contact for all seed establishments, seed laboratories, operators and graders seeking registration, licensing or accreditation. Currently, CSI monitors over 1300 Canadian seed establishments, authorized importers and accredited seed testing laboratories.

As the CSI's first Executive Director, Jim took the CSI from a concept to a working model that is not only efficient and successful but is cutting edge in the field of regulatory reform. The CSI model and its successes have been held up numerous times by the Canadian government as the way-of-the-future for industries to address the need for regulatory reform.

In the words of his nominator "I feel Jim's actions and initiative is on par with any entrepreneur within the CSTA. He has shown initiative, vision, ability to negotiate effectively with diverse stakeholders, to be fiscally responsible, and most importantly to be a leader."

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For information: Patty Townsend, Vice-President   (613) 829-9527

Headquartered in the nation's capital, the Canadian Seed Trade Association (CSTA) represents the interests of 138 corporate members engaged in all aspects of seed research, production and marketing, both domestically and internationally.