

For Immediate Release

2004 Business Excellence Awards Winners Announced

December 1, 2004, St. John's, NL – Today, the winners of the St. John's Board of Trade's prestigious Business Achievement Awards and Business Excellence Award for 2004 were announced.

Approximately 800 people from the local business community gathered at this year's awards luncheon to celebrate some of the Board of Trade's outstanding member companies.

The winner of the coveted 2004 Business Excellence Award is

D.F. Barnes Ltd.

The winner of the Business Excellence Award is chosen from among the winners of the Business Achievement Awards and goes to the company that best demonstrates the pursuit of excellence in business.

The Business Achievement Awards were given in 8 different categories. The winners are as follows:

<i>Achievement Award Winner</i>	<i>Category</i>
Ernst & Young LLP	Contribution to Community and Community Service
D.F. Barnes Ltd.	Growth in Domestic/Export Markets
North Atlantic	Marketing and Promotional Achievement
St. John's International Airport Authority	Customer Service and Reliability
Browning Harvey Ltd.	Productivity and Quality Improvements
Murray Premises Hotel	New Start-Up
Verafin Inc.	Innovation
John Fitzpatrick	Business Person Volunteer of the Year

The awards program is in its twelfth year and was initiated in 1993 to recognize the outstanding business achievements and pursuit of excellence of Board of Trade members. This year's awards were presented by Board of Trade President, Bill Budgell, and announced by Senior Vice President, Dr. Marilyn Thompson.

