

## FIRMENICH WINS 2008 DUPONT SAFETY AWARD

**Geneva, Switzerland, October 13, 2008** – Firmenich, the world's largest privately-owned fragrance and flavor company, has won the DuPont Safety Award in the Felt Leadership category for its innovative "Health, Safety & Environment Management System".

"Safety is a cornerstone of any sustainable business model and has always been an integral part of our company Fundamentals", said the Group's CEO, Patrick Firmenich. "Felt Leadership is one of the top differentiators between a good and a great safety culture, and we are thus honoured to be recognized in this key category. It demonstrates how the creative talent of a family-owned company like ours is applied to protecting our people and our environment, as much as to creating great perfumes and flavors", he added.

Safety is an ongoing priority at Firmenich and calls for continuous improvement. "The Firmenich approach to safety management requires each and every one of us to play a role in ensuring that the safety rules are respected; and that line management accepts overall responsibility and accountability for its execution", explained Neil McFarlane, Vice President Global HS&E. "The Company's operating philosophy – delineated in our Safety Charter – embraces this inclusive approach and inspires the operational discipline that leads to safety excellence."

Firmenich also became the first company in the fragrance and flavor industry to sign the World Safety Declaration in February 2007.

"The DuPont Safety Award considers contributions or projects in the fields of safety in the workplace or in society in general," said Ian Hudson, president DuPont EMEA. "As a family-owned business, Firmenich brought a strong cultural change internally, communicating their operating philosophy on the management of Health, Safety and Environment, with the issue of their Charter and recognizing that line management has a key role to play there."

The award was given at the DuPont 2008 Leaders Forum on "Building the Future of Safety", where about 200 senior representatives from over 80 companies, ranging from a wide variety of industry sectors, including construction, energy and transportation, meet to share first-hand experience, listen to case studies and explore cutting-edge ideas from peers and experts. The annual event also featured the presentation of the prestigious DuPont Safety Award for individual and collective safety and sustainability initiatives in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA).

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