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ANNUAL PICS AWARDS of the PICS FOUNDATION

PICS Prize Winner (1000 €)

FOR BEST MASTER'S THESIS IN SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Rules for PICS Prize Award 2009

Article 1.

The professional society PICS Belgium wants to promote and provide a channel for practical knowledge transfer from educational institutions to the business environment.

It wants to encourage students to get acquainted and work on supply chain issues as a stepping-stone towards rewarding careers in supply chain management.

It wants to provide companies operating in Belgium with opportunities to learn from and work together with higher educational institutions in the field of supply chain management to the benefit of both parties.

Article 2.

PICS Belgium has the intention to honour master's theses that have been submitted to Belgian higher education institutes (universities or colleges) as part of the requirements to obtain a diploma of higher education.

The PICS Prize is intended for master's theses that were submitted to the higher education institutes in Dutch, French or English during the academic year October 2008 – July 2009.

Article 3.

The PICS Prize honours both the thesis writer and his/her promotor, recognizing the importance of both parties in the work.

Any submitted thesis will be treated as having only one thesis writer (student) and one promotor. This does not preclude submittal of theses with multiple writers but they will – in that case – be considered as one team.

Article 4.

The annual PICS prize is as follows:

- The writer (or team of writers) of the thesis, which is selected as **PICS Prize winner** obtains 1000,- €

Both students and promotor(s) receive a prize or award certificate.

Article 5.

Master's theses are eligible for consideration for the PICS Prize if they satisfy the following conditions:

- The thesis must prove to be of exceptional contribution to the innovation or improvement in one or more of the subjects of supply chain management
- The subject must be clearly in the field of supply chain management, i.e. covering the supply chain as a whole or parts thereof (such as sourcing, production logistics, distribution, planning, reverse logistics, collaborative supply chains)
- The thesis must contain practical evidence of the business value of the study or recommendations to companies with supply chain issues. This way the thesis can contribute to better actual supply chain management.

Article 6.

Any master's thesis, satisfying the above conditions, must be submitted through the thesis promotor of the educational institution. A brief maximum one-page justification memorandum written by the thesis promotor must accompany this thesis submittal. The memorandum, together with a pdf copy of the submitted master's thesis, must be submitted by the thesis promotor to PICS Belgium (info@picsbelgium.be), no later than 20 July 2009.

Article 7.

PICS Belgium appoints an award committee, predominantly consisting of practitioners, to evaluate the submitted theses and recommend winner(s) to the board of PICS Belgium. The board of PICS Belgium decides on the awards. In any given year, the number of PICS awards can be variable, depending on the quality of the submitted theses. There can only be one PICS prize winner per year.

Article 8.

The PICS prize award winners (students and promoters) agree to write a summary article for publication purposes – under their name, should PICS Belgium decide towards such an initiative. The PICS prizewinner agrees to give a presentation on the subject of the winning thesis at a PICS event to be agreed with PICS Belgium.

Article 9.

PICS Belgium recognizes the possibility of existing confidentiality agreements between the educational institutions and collaborating companies where the thesis work has been done. PICS Belgium will respect these confidentiality agreements and adhere to them to their fullest degree. In case of a winner, PICS Belgium will suggest to the promotor to discuss any existing confidentiality agreement in order to investigate the possibilities for publication. Only when written agreements can be obtained will PICS Belgium eventually insist on its right for publication requirement.

Article 10.

The PICS awards will be officially announced and handed over during a formal event in the Fall of the year following the academic year for which the awards are decided. All award winners are expected to be present at this event.

Article 11.

PICS Belgium decides yearly on the continuation of the awards.