



# INNOVATION AWARDS FOR **FRANCO-CHINESE TEAMS**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **FIRST EVER INNOVATION AWARDS FOR FRANCO-CHINESE TEAMS**

**A comprehensive approach to bi-cultural innovation by teams responding to the world's current and future environmental, demographic and industrial trends**

#### **R&D Prize**

**EDF & IEE-CAS**

*Joint EDF and IEE-CAS (Institute of Electrical Engineering- Chinese Academy of Science) R&D project researching Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) technology for towers*

#### **Innovative Product Prize**

**ALCHIMEDICS S.A.S, SINO MEDICAL SCIENCES TECHNOLOGY INC**

*"BuMA"*

*A vascular stent maximizing patient protection and cutting healthcare costs*

**The France China Committee and its partners highlight Franco-Chinese innovation by distinguishing two bi-cultural teams for their innovative work and their industrial property policy.**

*"A France-China 50 event - [www.france-chine50.com](http://www.france-chine50.com)"*

Beijing, December 4, 2014 ---- As part of the "France Technology - so French, so innovative" publicity campaign, the France China Committee (CFC) and its partners have organized the first ever **Innovation Awards for Franco-Chinese Teams**.

The awards have been organized **under the patronage of Emmanuel Macron, Minister for the Economy, Industry and Digital, and Geneviève Fioraso, Secretary of State for Higher Education and Research**, and are backed by the special support and expertise of the French INPI (*National Institute of Industrial Property*) and the Chinese SIPO (*State Intellectual Property Office of the P. R. China*), as co-chairmen of the Jury.

#### **Why do we need these awards?**

In France, innovation is seen as a seamless process ranging from basic research to industrial implementation involving technological cooperation between science and industry.

Cooperation in scientific and technological research plays a major role in Franco-Chinese relations. Since 1978, based on the bilateral agreement on scientific and technological cooperation, strengthened in 2013

by



a joint declaration on innovation by two French Ministries (for Productive



Recovery and Higher Education and Research) on the one hand, and the Chinese Ministry for Science and Technology on the other, our two countries recognize the importance of research and have set up many joint research entities and research networks and discussion forums to promote industrial cooperation.

French companies have developed a growing number of R&D organizations within the Chinese ecosystem. The diversity of activities covered by these organizations (fundamental research, adaptation or development of specific products for local markets, innovation) is part of a shared vision of cooperative development benefiting both French and Chinese partners.

The **Innovation Awards for Franco-Chinese teams** are intended to showcase and reward people who contribute to world-class research and development of innovative projects designed to transform our lifestyles for the better. The projects presented have been developed jointly by bi-cultural teams from universities, top ranking schools, laboratories and R&D centers, covering the entire range of French innovation.

## **2014 Awards**

The jury decided to reward the winning teams on the basis of the following criteria:

- Expression of the team's bi-cultural Franco-Chinese character
- Innovative qualities and endorsement of intellectual property
- Economic viability
- Usefulness of the project in social, economic, industrial and environmental terms

The two winning teams have been chosen from 22 projects involving over 200 French and Chinese engineers, competing in 2 different categories:

### **R&D Prize Winner**

#### **EDF & IEE-CAS**

Joint EDF and IEE-CAS (Institute of Electrical Engineering- Chinese Academy of Science) R&D project into Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) technology for towers

### **Innovative Product Prize Winner**

#### **ALCHIMEDICS S.A.S, SINO MEDICAL SCIENCES TECHNOLOGY INC**

"BuMA": A vascular stent maximizing patient protection and cutting healthcare costs

The winners received their prizes at a press conference held on December 4 in Beijing at the Raffles Hotel, in the presence of HE Maurice Gourdault-Montagne, French Ambassador in China, and the two co-chairmen of the Jury, Yves Lapierre, Managing Director of INPI, and HE Zhimin, Deputy Commissioner of SIPO.

In view of the high quality of the projects submitted, the jury also wished to distinguish the following projects by Special Mention:

### **Most promising team for Franco-Chinese innovation**

**FRENCH MINES - TELECOM FOUNDATION - DataBridge**

### **Outstanding Franco-Chinese world**

**ALSTOM HYDRO CHINA - R&D and production project for 800 MW generating plant at the Xiangjiaba**



*hydro-electric power station*

### **Best joint Franco-Chinese laboratory**

**SOLVAY - E2P2L: A unique international research laboratory in Shanghai**

These winners for 2014 show that a globalized general approach to innovation is an effective way of meeting the global challenges facing our societies. Through these Awards, cooperative innovation among bi-cultural Franco-Chinese teams has demonstrated excellence and the promise it holds for the future.

Some bi-cultural teams that entered this competition belonged to large entities (e.g. companies or established laboratories), others had more modest origins (e.g. start-ups or SMEs) and should be encouraged to take part in the next edition of these Awards.

### **The Jury**

These first ever Innovation Awards for Franco-Chinese teams have been awarded by a **Franco-Chinese Jury under the joint chairmanship of Yves Lapierre, Managing Director of INPI and HE Zhimin, Deputy Commissioner of SIPO**, whose 13 members were drawn from French and Chinese institutions, companies and scientific publications:

#### **Co-chairmen**

- INPI
- SIPO

#### **Members from institutional bodies**

- Science department of the French Embassy in China

#### **Members from scientific and technological publications**

- La Recherche magazine
- Science and Technology Daily
- Chinese Intellectual Property Publishing House

#### **Members from companies**

- Areva
- Dassault Systems
- GDF SUEZ
- Institut Mérieux
- Michelin
- Safran and its partner Beihang University
- Schneider Electric

The two winning teams received cash awards of RMB 30,000 per team, and airline tickets donated by Air France and tablets donated by Huawei.

[www.francetechnology.com](http://www.francetechnology.com)

The "France Technology – So French, so innovative" campaign launched in July 2014 by the France China Committee and its partners to mark the fiftieth anniversary of diplomatic relations between France and China, is a vehicle to promote in China all innovations developed by French companies, from great industrial successes to future triumphs. The



campaign will close in Beijing on December 4 with the Innovation Awards for Franco-Chinese teams co-chaired by Yves Lapierre, Managing Director of INPI and HE Zhimin, Deputy Commissioner of the State Intellectual Property Office (SIPO).

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#### **THE FRANCE CHINA COMMITTEE**

Founded in 1979, the France China Committee is an association of some one hundred members from companies established for the long term in France and China. The purpose of the Committee is to promote Franco-Chinese dialogue with senior Chinese government authorities by representing the French business community in its relations with China. [www.comitefrancechine.com](http://www.comitefrancechine.com)

