



## CANADIAN AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Canadian Award for Environmental Innovation Winner

OTTAWA, OCTOBER 26, 2010 – The Royal Canadian Geographical Society and 3M Canada announce the winner of the **Canadian Award for Environmental Innovation** for 2010.

Inaugurated in 2009, the Award for Environmental Innovation recognizes individuals who are making innovative contributions to the protection, restoration and preservation of the Canadian environment.

The second annual recipient is **Frank van Biesen** who, as vice-president, technology, of Kruger Products LP, led the implementation of the groundbreaking biomass gasification project at the company's mill in New Westminster, B.C. It is the first installation of energy firm Nexterra's gasification system that direct-fires syngas, derived from wood waste, into industrial process boilers. By using renewable biomass fuels such as wood waste, industrial and institutional facilities will be able to generate reliable, cost-effective, clean energy, all the while dramatically reducing their carbon footprint.

"Frank van Biesen's advocacy of green technology, his leadership in championing and implementing this new gasification system," said Award Jury Chair Bruce Amos, "demonstrates how innovation can both benefit the environment and improve the competitiveness of Canadian industry."

Only eight months after inception, Kruger Products LP was meeting its targets of lowering greenhouse gas emissions and supplying 50% of the mill's thermal energy needs. This is the first use of the technology in the pulp and paper industry in North America.

The 2010 Award for Environmental Innovation will be presented to Frank van Biesen at The Royal Canadian Geographical Society's College of Fellows Dinner on November 4, 2010, at the Fairmont Château Laurier in Ottawa.

The **Canadian Award for Environmental Innovation** was established by The Royal Canadian Geographical Society in partnership with 3M Canada in 2009.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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