

## Esker CEO, Jean-Michel Bérard, Recognised at Entrepreneur of the Year Awards

Derby, UK — October 1, 2013 — [Esker](#), a worldwide leader in [document process automation solutions](#) is excited to announce that [CEO and President of the Board of Directors, Jean-Michel Bérard](#), has been named the 2013 Entrepreneur of the Year for the French Rhône-Alpes region by Ernst & Young and French news magazine *L'Express*. The prestigious award has honoured leading businesspersons for their entrepreneurship every year for the past 20 years. Rewarded for his continued commitment to innovation, Jean-Michel Bérard also received this award on a national level in 2000.

Since its creation in 1985, Esker has taken advantage of evolving market trends by adapting its strategic positioning in order to support its customers' unique IT needs. This culture of change and innovation, coupled with international development expertise, positions Esker as one of the most successful French small and medium-sized enterprises and software vendors.

“At Esker, we have always focused our development on three key principles: utilising innovation as a driver for growth, listening to our customers to anticipate trends, and leveraging acquisitions to integrate other companies' expertise with our own,” said Jean-Michel Bérard. “In the early 2000s, we were able to completely reposition the company in the document process automation market, and as of 2004, we turned to [software as a service and the cloud computing](#) market. As a result of these strategic initiatives, Esker has a new dynamic, and today, 67% of company sales revenue comes from business outside of France. Esker is positioned as one of the leading French software vendors to have successfully moved to cloud computing.”

Jean-Michel Bérard drives the business strategy and leads the Esker management team while remaining active in the field. He communicates with customers directly and personally oversees the Asia-Pacific subsidiary along with Esker's five worldwide mail production facilities. According to Bérard, “If there are more than three levels between you and the ground, the true value of what you are trying to accomplish is lost.”

### [About Esker](#)

Esker is the worldwide leader in document process automation solutions. Addressing all types of business processes from accounts payable and accounts receivable to sales order processing and procurement, Esker cloud computing solutions enable companies to automate the reception, processing and sending of any business document with one platform. Esker helps over 80,000 companies across the world to reduce the use of paper and eliminate manual processes while improving their productivity, efficiency and environmental impact.

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With 40.3 million euros in sales revenue in 2012, Esker operates in North America, Europe and Asia Pacific with global headquarters in Lyon, France and U.S. headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin. Esker is listed on the NYSE Alternext in Paris (Code ISIN FR0000035818). For more information, visit [www.esker.co.uk](http://www.esker.co.uk). Follow Esker on LinkedIn at [Esker – Northern Europe](#), or on Twitter at [twitter.com/eskerinc](https://twitter.com/eskerinc) and join the conversation on the [Esker blog](#).

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