

## Press Release

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École Polytechnique de Montréal announces a CIRAIG spin-off and its merger with an offspring company from École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne to create Quantis Canada.

Montreal, October 16, 2009 – To meet the increasing demands of companies and governments seeking to manage their life cycles and reduce their environmental impacts, École Polytechnique de Montréal, a major partner of the CIRAIG - Interuniversity Research Centre for the Life Cycle of Products, Processes and Services, together with the Switzerland-based Ecoincesys – Life Cycle Systems, created a new joint venture: Quantis Canada. Specializing in life cycle assessment, this new entity will be part of Quantis international, which aside from its new branch in Montreal has offices in Boston, Paris, Lyon and Lausanne.

Founded in 2001 by the École Polytechnique de Montréal, in collaboration with the Université de Montréal and HEC Montréal, the CIRAIG currently consists of ten collaborating universities and a broad international network of collaborators among its members. The CIRAIG is now recognized as one of the most important research centers worldwide in the field of life cycle assessment (LCA).

For its part, Ecoincesys – Life Cycle Systems was created in 2005 by LCA researchers from the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne in Switzerland. The company included over twenty experts working in Lausanne, Paris and Boston.

There is an increasing worldwide demand for life cycle assessment (LCA) of products and services and sustainable development tools. Ecoincesys – Life Cycle Systems and the consulting component of the CIRAIG, located at École Polytechnique de Montréal, both benefit from an excellent reputation in these fields among businesses and governments alike, at both the national and international levels. LCA provides the framework to scientifically and precisely assess the environmental footprint of companies, products and services, in addition to helping governments implement their sustainable development strategy. In order for this to be accomplished however, LCA requires research-based leading-edge expertise. Quantis Canada will provide industrial and governmental clients with access to the best research-connected LCA experts in the world.

Professor Réjean Samson, CIRAIG General Director, explains that Quantis Canada represents a natural evolution of the more applied component of the CIRAIG. « The consulting component of the CIRAIG has reached a critical mass for an academic context. Privatizing a significant part of the services offered by a team of CIRAIG analysts currently located at the École Polytechnique de Montréal will enable the new company to grow while continuing to offer the same high level quality and reliability of services which have earned CIRAIG its high reputation.

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It also offers university graduates in LCA new job opportunities in this leading-edge field ».

For Professor Gilles Savard, Director of Research and Innovation of École Polytechnique, « The CIRAIQ is one of École Polytechnique's key research centres and its expertise in sustainable development and LCA is recognized around the world. The creation of Quantis Canada reflects Polytechnique's desire to encourage the transfer of innovations and know-how developed by our researchers. We enthusiastically support this initiative. »

Mr. Daniel Normandin, a well-known figure in the fields of environment and LCA at the international level and CEO of Quantis Canada: « The alliance with Econtesys– Life Cycle Systems came naturally. With its international network of experts, the high level quality of its work, its strategic research collaborations and its offices in Europe and North America, Quantis Canada has all the elements to rapidly become a world leader in LCA ».

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For more information, please contact: [stephanie.oscarson@polymtl.ca](mailto:stephanie.oscarson@polymtl.ca) or [sandra.estrela@polymtl.ca](mailto:sandra.estrela@polymtl.ca) (+1 514 340-5296)