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ESI is the pioneer and world-leading solution provider in virtual prototyping.

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ESI named 'Company of the Year' by the FACC

Recognizing outstanding accomplishments at fostering French-American trade

Paris, France – May 5, 2011 – [ESI Group](#), pioneer and world-leading solution provider in [virtual prototyping](#), announces that it is to be honored as “Company of the Year” by the Michigan Chapter of the French-American Chamber of Commerce (FACC), along with the U.S. automobile company Cadillac.

The FACC, a non-profit, member-driven organization, is dedicated to recognizing, promoting and fostering business relationships between the United States and France. Since 1996, the FACC Gala has honored companies that have contributed to the development of commerce between the two countries. The Michigan Chapter names two businesses each year, one French and one American, "Company of the Year."

The awards will be presented to [ESI](#) and to Cadillac at the FACC's 2011 Annual Gala, one of the Detroit area's premier black-tie business events, taking place on Friday, May 6, 2011 at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, in Detroit, Michigan. The gala will celebrate the legacy of Antoine de Lamothe Cadillac who set in motion a spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation in Michigan.

“The 2011 FACC Companies of the Year exemplify the best qualities of companies that are striving to increase trade and commerce between two great countries and, in doing so, promoting jobs and prosperity in Michigan,” said **Robert A. Hudson**, President of the Michigan chapter of the FACC and an attorney with Butzel Long.



Alain de Rouvray, ESI Group Chairman, co-founder and CEO declared, *“I am truly honored to receive this prestigious recognition from the French-American Chamber of Commerce. This award salutes twenty-five years of earnest efforts and investments, with the generous dedication of our teams and the confident support of our lead US customers and partners to drive innovation for economic and social benefits. It causes me to recall our first success in the USA with the adoption of PAM-CRASH at General Motors to spur on vehicle crashworthiness by recourse to numerical simulation, and thereafter the continuous promotion of innovative solutions in Virtual Engineering for diverse disciplines and industrial sectors in Transportation, Aerospace, Energy, etc... It encourages us to pursue this endeavor with renewed vigor and collaborative spirit. Thank you very much.”*

Find out more about the FACC 2011 Annual Gala and Award Ceremony: www.faccmi.org/chambers-activities/calendar-of-events/vue-detail/event/5846.html

For more ESI news, visit: www.esi-group.com/newsroom

About the FACC

Founded in 1984, the French-American Chamber of Commerce (FACC) is a non-profit, member-driven organization dedicated to recognizing, promoting and fostering business relationships between the United States and France. The FACC national network is comprised of 19 chapters in major cities across the U.S. with thousands of members that represent a diversity of individuals and companies engaged in business in major regions of the world.

About ESI Group

[ESI](#) is a pioneer and world-leading provider in virtual prototyping that takes into account the physics of materials. [ESI](#) has developed an extensive suite of coherent, industry-oriented applications to realistically simulate a product's behavior during testing, to fine-tune manufacturing processes in accordance with desired product performance, and to evaluate the environment's impact on performance. [ESI's](#) solutions fit into a single collaborative and open environment for End-to-End Virtual Prototyping, thus eliminating the need for physical prototypes during product development. The company employs over 800 high-level specialists worldwide covering more than 30 countries. [ESI Group](#) is listed in compartment C of NYSE Euronext Paris. For further information, visit www.esi-group.com.

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