Introduction to the 20 nominees
7th edition of the French Business Awards
January, 31st 2018

COMPANY OF THE YEAR

CLEDASIE JAPAN KK
CLEDASIE which means “KEY FOR ASIA” in French is a multi-brands organization promoting and selling luxury products in Asia.

They have 2 different missions and 2 organizations. CLEDASIE SINGAPORE Pte Ltd expands the sales in Asia through a network of local distributorship Companies. CLEDASIE JAPAN K.K. based in Tokyo is dedicated to the domestic market to increase the branding and the sales in Japan.

As of today, CLEDASIE represents 4 brands including 3 in the cosmetics sector: THERMES MARINS from Saint-Malo, France, VINESIME from Gevrey Chambertin, France and SODASHI in Perth, Australia. They are also the distributor and the agency for LYTESS, a range of cosmetic-textile underwear for women.

Their marketing strategy is to sell the products in the spas of luxury hotels, aesthetic salons and on the internet. They provide a whole service “sur mesure” to their brand-partners.

In 5 years, CLEDASIE JAPAN shall become the leader for "niche products" in the Beauty Business in Japan.

NINAPHARM JAPON
NINAPHARM focuses its research on the microbiota of Japanese centenarians. The company discovered that the specificity of the bacteria present in the gut is the key to the amazing longevity of centenarians.

NINAPHARM was founded in 1993 in France and is present on the international stage with offices in Japan and USA. The company’s main focus is on the development of antioxidant actives, which means that we are at the centre of large numbers of concept developments on the pharmaceutical, nutraceutical and cosmetic industries. Their research team is working in collaboration with prestigious partners like research institutes and has patented several breakthrough technologies.

PEUGEOT CITROËN JAPAN
Peugeot Citroën Japan is the direct subsidiary of the PSA Group in Japan and their activities cover new vehicles and parts’ importation of PSA Group’s 3 Brands: Peugeot, Citroën and DS Automobiles. The company’s network covers Japan with 130 sales points and 154 service points. They aims to convince Japanese customers that PSA cars fit Japanese demanding market, offering an original approach for design and comfort.
VALEO TRANSMISSIONS JAPAN
Valeo Transmissions Japan is an automotive supplier member of Valeo Group and a partner to Japanese automakers. As a technology company, they design innovative solutions with a particular focus on reducing CO2 emissions. Valeo Transmissions Japan is based in Atsugi with its own development centre and factory dedicated to the design and production of transmissions systems (torque-converters) for main Japanese OEM (Nissan, Subaru, Toyota or Jatco among them).

WEARE PACIFIC
WEARE Group is a detailed part manufacturer created by French family companies specialized in precision machining & turning, special treatment, assembly and additive manufacturing. The group gathered all processes to become a fully integrated supplier for the aerospace, defence, automotive, medical and energy industries.

This year, the group expands by creating “WEARE Pacific K.K.”, headquartered in Japan, partnering with a key player in the region: Yamaichi Special Steel Co. Ltd., a Japanese Family company from Nagoya. WEARE Pacific is the next logical step for this French-Japanese partnership after the creation in January 2016 of “Prismadd Japan” dedicated to Additive Manufacturing (3D Printing).

PRODUCT/SERVICE OF THE YEAR

AKISHIMA CHEMICAL INDUSTRY
Since 2016, a R&D cross-border team (France, China and Japan) has been working on the development of a new NAKAN Drysol PVC compounds for the slush molding of instrument panels’ skins. It offers design freedom, a leather-like soft touch and aspect, excellent durability and airbag deployment properties at a wide range of temperatures. Over 30 Million JPY were invested in this endeavour, with a new Laboratory set-up at our plant and R&D Centre in Saitama and two engineers (hired locally and trained in France and China) have been working closely with the Japanese OEM to tune and homologate the new Compound. The first deliveries for mass-production vehicles are expected in 2020.

FAURECIA JAPAN
Nissan just officially released last December the new Infiniti SUV QX50 where Faurecia is delivering the instrument panel and central console. Faurecia has brought brand new technology and innovations to Nissan with a premium execution including cut & sew and unique wood, and alu decorations. It is the first time that Nissan has selected a supplier against its own keiretsu, and moreover for its premium brand Infiniti, the project was supported by Nissan Design, Infiniti Engineering and RNPO top management with the ambition to compete with the German premium brands. Full development and prototypes have been done in Japan for the first time ever as well bringing Mercedes like technology.
KAWASAKI MACHINE INDUSTRY
With 50 years of expertise in the design, the development and the manufacture of high precision and quality gears, KMI essentially offers unique gear solutions for aeronautics, defence and automotive sectors. Since the creation of the Research Institute Manufacturing Technology Centre in 1973, the company also takes orders for the conception of new gears.

However, the firm’s activities are not only limited to the industrial sector. Strongly led by its slogan “Shaping the future with unlimited spirit”, KMI is dedicated to support innovative start-ups with high potentiality while promoting the image of quality of Kyoto, the city where its factories and headquarters are settled.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (CSR) AWARD

ALTAVIA JAPAN
Altavia is the first international independent group specialized in sales communications for retailers. Founded in 1983 by Chief Executive Officer Raphaël Palti, the group offers tailor-made sales activation solutions to the retailers. Nowadays, sales communications effectiveness lies in the unique relational alchemy which enables retailers to forge fruitful bonds with their customers. This relational alchemy requires day-to-day nurturing, enrichment and transformation. Altavia provides more than 300 international leading retail companies and brands with innovative, technological and efficient means to activate their sales, on a day-to-day basis.

JK HOLDINGS
JK Holdings owns nine companies engaged in the wholesale of general building materials and seven companies involved in plywood manufacturing and wood processing. An additional nine companies are involved in retail for general building materials while three more are engaged in construction. Two companies operate warehousing and transportation. The holding also has two wood processing companies. One company operates in the leasing of real estate. They have a further three companies in franchising, in the travel industry, and insurance. The Group consists of 36 consolidated subsidiaries in total.

ODAKYU ELECTRIC RAILWAY CO., LTD
Odakyu Electric Railway Co., Ltd. (hereinafter “Odakyu”) operates three lines spanning a total of 120.5 kilometers: the Odawara Line connecting Shinjuku Station in Tokyo with Odawara Station in Kanagawa; the Tama Line, which branches from the Odawara Line at Shin-Yurigaoka Station; and the Enoshima Line, which branches from the Odawara Line at Sagami-Ono Station and runs to Katase-Enoshima Station.

There are 27 municipalities along these lines, including Shinjuku and Shibuya Wards, which are home to 5.09 million residents. Their ridership is 749 million passengers annually, mainly students and workers commuting to central Tokyo and other areas served by the Odakyu Lines. In addition,
Odakyu also has a real estate leasing business handling commercial complexes and offices with a total leasing area of 9,491,000 square meters.

In April 2017, Odakyu celebrated its 90th anniversary from the opening of the Odawara Line. During these years, the Odakyu Group has expanded from rail services into transportation, real estate, merchandising including department stores and supermarkets, and the hotel and restaurant business. They continue on improving their services to increase the value of the areas along the Odakyu lines and to win the high regard of their customers.

**SAPPORO HOLDINGS LTD**

The Sapporo Group, which started brewing beer in 1876, celebrated the 140th anniversary of its founding in 2016. They have taken this opportunity to formulate the new Long-Term Management Vision SPEED150 for the next 10 years through 2026, the year of their 150th anniversary. Recognizing that the source of the Group's growth lies in the brand assets cultivated over the Group's 140-year history since it was founded, the Company has positioned “Alcoholic Beverages”, “Food” and “Soft Drinks” as the Group's three core business fields, and will work to nurture and strengthen the Group's brands along with its real estate business. The Group seeks to become an enterprise that helps to provide creative, enriching and rewarding lifestyles to customers not only in Japan, but also throughout the world.

The Sapporo Group's Management Philosophy is “As an intrinsic part of people’s lives, Sapporo will contribute to the evolution of creative, enriching and rewarding lifestyles” and The Sapporo Group strives to maintain integrity in corporate conduct that reinforces stakeholder trust, and aims to achieve continuous growth in corporate value.

**AQUABIT SPIRALS**

Aquabit Spirals creates a “connected life” where physical things and online information directly connect and anyone can reach related online information from things or location without having to make a research.

The company has developed “SmartPlate”, a device to connect physical and digital contents with a patented technology. SmartPlate allows end users to access with their mobile related information from things or location by just a tap, no app needed. SmartPlate cloud system manages the contents delivered from each SmartPlate remotely and stores real time access data.

This app-less and battery-less tool has a high potential to be a global standard in content delivery infrastructure for any industries and services.

**FINALCAD**

FINALCAD is a global leader in digital transformation for construction, infrastructure, energy and concessions. Its mobile apps and predictive analytics helps contractors, developers, architects and field operators with quality control, defect
management and progress monitoring. Since 2011, FINALCAD has been delivering more than 15,000 projects in 35 countries.

IKKAI

Ikkai connects companies and individuals with students through its online marketplace. The company makes it easy and affordable to find help for these time and money consuming tasks.

Tasks can be anything and range from unskilled work such as apartment cleaning to jobs that require more skills such as programming, translation, etc. Ikkai is able to identify students’ hard and soft skills thanks to the jobs they complete on the marketplace and the reviews they get from clients. Using this data, the company is able to provide better quality matches between students and companies, therefore increasing employees’ motivation, but also the reducing turnover.

INSTITUTION FOR A GLOBAL SOCIETY

Institution for a Global Society is a people analytics company based in Tokyo. Our main product GROW360 is a state-of-the-art, 360-degree assessment system (available on both IOS and Android) designed to assess candidates’ personalities, skills and competencies through bias-free assessment technology to reveal their growth potential. We aim to replace “human intuition” with big data points across many people to develop a scientific, objective, and constantly-improving engine to recruit, screen and develop human capital. GROW has over 120,000 users and various success cases.

Clients include METI, Mitsubishi Corporation, Robert Walters, All-Nippon Airways, Septeni, DeNA, Rakuten, and AXA.

LPixel, a spin-out venture from the University of Tokyo, is a leader in advanced image analysis systems for life science research. LPixel’s strength lies in unifying imaging technology and its expertise in the life sciences. LPixel is currently involved in three national projects including ImPACT led by the Cabinet Office, CREST funded by Japan Science and Technology Agency, and various other projects funded by the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. LPixel’s solutions include IMACEL, an AI-based image analysis cloud platform catered for life science research, and EIRL, an AI medical image analysis diagnostic support technology designed to detect cancers and other medical anomalies.

NEXT LEVEL JAPAN

Next Level is a small but fast growing Sales Development company, specialized mostly in Tech start-ups: Software, Digital Healthcare, and Mobile Lifestyle. Next Level provides a wide range of Sales Development services to Tech firms (mainly foreign) desiring to maximize their Japan opportunity, from partner research and channel development to project coordination and digital marketing.
SECURE-IC
Secure-IC is a spinoff of a French research institute. Secure-IC delivers advanced secure elements, security evaluation platforms and security services to help semiconductor companies achieve the highest levels of security on any embedded system. We prevent the hack, the reverse engineering of embedded systems or theft of intellectual property. Among Secure-IC’s worldwide customer base (Europe, Israel, Japan, US, China, Taiwan, S Korea, etc.): top worldwide smartphone manufacturer, Subway transaction servers, Set-Top-Box, broadcasting, IoT device, Memory, Automotive chipsets, defence and governments, Security laboratories. Secure-IC established its North Asia base in Japan in November 2016.

WENOTECH
HirePlanner.com is the first bilingual cloud recruiting management system designed for HR professionals and corporate recruiters in Japan. It provides an easy to use web interface with a wide range of tools designed to help your business simplify and automate its hiring process.

The recruiting solutions we provide (job postings, agency management, resume search, interview scheduling and much more) aim at significantly reducing your administrative work, keeping your data secure, reducing your average cost per hire and offering a much greater recruiting experience to your candidates.