



Paulo Maia
President and Chief Executive Officer

July 15, 2013

Nicholas M. Walker
CEO
Bassett & Walker International, Inc.
2 Berkeley Street, Suite 303
Toronto, ON M5A 4J5

Dear Mr. Walker,

On behalf of HSBC Bank Canada, I am writing to extend my personal congratulations to you and Bassett & Walker International, Inc. on being awarded a special Excellence Award for Leadership in International Trade.

Since the inception of the program, BWI has been one of the biggest proponents and clearly one of the standouts, consecutively winning in the Leadership in International Trade – Latin America category in the first two years. We are very pleased that the judging committee this year decided to recognize your accomplishments and leadership in the international marketplace over and above the regular award categories.

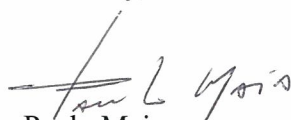
All of the entries this year were reviewed for technical and business merit by an independent panel of international business experts from *Canadian Business*, Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters, Export Development Canada, Economist Intelligence Unit, Desautels Faculty of Management at McGill University and the Sauder School for Business at the University of British Columbia. A total of 12 companies have been selected as finalists.

We are thrilled to share this great news with you and we look forward to recognizing your hard work and success at a gala celebration to be held on November 7, 2013 at The Carlu in Toronto, Ontario.

As an award recipient, you are invited to attend the gala and as the recipient of this unique award, BWI will be singularly recognized at the gala. I am pleased to extend the enclosed package of benefits and information for your reference.

I look forward to meeting you at the gala, to congratulate you in person on this worthy achievement.

Sincerely,



Paulo Maia
President and CEO

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