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## **Mid-market Business of the Year 2008**

### **ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa secures prestigious Ottawa Chamber of Commerce Business Achievement award**

**OTTAWA, Ontario – November 21, 2008** ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa has been named the 2008 Mid-market Business of the Year, through the Ottawa Chamber of Commerce and its annual Business Achievement Awards.

This prestigious award is presented to the Ottawa business with 26 -150 employees, that has displayed leadership in job creation and employee retention, innovation and R&D, community involvement, environmental stewardship, and customer relations. Of the eight finalist businesses selected in the mid-market category, ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa topped the list, with Retirement-Home Services receiving Silver and Halogen Software taking home the Bronze.

John Cooke, president, ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa is proud of this great achievement. "We were up against some serious competition," says Cooke. "To come out on top of these other businesses truly is an achievement."

It is no wonder why ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa was chosen for this award when you take a look in to all that they have going on. From its CHEO fund and charitable contributions to its large equipment purchases and constant service offering expansions, it is a perfect fit. "Since taking ownership of the company two years ago, we have been investing toward becoming the best and most well-equipped in our business," says Cooke. "We strive to expand and improve our business and practices in every way possible and our team has worked really hard to get us to where we are today. This award is validation that our hard work and determination are paying off."

It is also clear that ServiceMaster's corporate objectives align it well with this kind of accomplishment. Namely, "Excel with Customers," which Cooke touched upon in his video response to the question "what advice would you give to another Ottawa business on how to lead through uncertain times?" Each year, finalists are asked a question and are given 30 seconds on film to provide an answer. Through Cooke's response, it is clear that ServiceMaster takes its corporate objectives seriously, and lives by them in its day-to-day operations.

Its team plays a large role in this as well. "Without cooperation from all members of the ServiceMaster team, an achievement of this kind cannot be accomplished," notes Cooke. "By staying focused on objectives, and working hard to meet them, the team as a whole can claim responsibility for this accomplishment."

The annual awards are in six categories – Professional Services, New Business, Small Business, Mid-market Business, Company, and Business Person - of the year.

The awards gala, which was held on Thursday, November 20, at Tudor Hall in South Ottawa, was host to some of Ottawa's finest business owners and managers. To see the gala on TV tune in to Rogers on Thursday, December 10, at 10:00 p.m.

#### About ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa

a trusted vendor of disaster restoration, commercial cleaning, janitorial services, and residential cleaning for over 35 years, ServiceMaster Clean of Ottawa is a member of the ServiceMaster Family of Brands. With over 4,500 franchises world-wide, ServiceMaster tends to millions of homes and business, and is the helping hand that will restore order in your life, at work and at home.

#### About the Ottawa Chamber of Commerce

The Ottawa Chamber of Commerce is the oldest and largest independent, most influential, not-for-profit business organization in the region. Since its founding in 1857, the Chamber (formerly the Ottawa Board of Trade) has been committed to not only its members' growth and prosperity but to the well-being of the community at large.

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