

## PRESS RELEASE

### Winners of the Dutch Investor Relations Awards are announced *Life-time achievement award for CFO Sligro*

Amsterdam, 9 January 2015 – Yesterday evening, the Dutch Society for Investor Relations (NEVIR) presented the Dutch IR Awards 2014. The awards are presented to companies and professionals that excel in maintaining their relationships with investors and analysts by means of good and clear disclosure, accessibility, knowledge and loyalty. During the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of these awards, held in the Amsterdam Arena, prizes were awarded for Best Company in the field of IR and Best IR Professional, to Dutch companies and professionals.

The nominations for the awards are based on a European study by WeConvene Extel combined with follow-on research by Citigate First Financial. In this follow-on study analysts and institutional investors have been asked which Dutch based companies and professionals they believe excel in the field of Investor Relations. The winners of the previous year were excluded from participation. Based on the result of this study, an independent specialist jury consisting of Rients Abma (Eumedion), Jack Jonk (Delta Lloyd), Henk Slotboom (the IDEA!), Maarten Hartog (Teslin) and Corné van Zeijl (Actiam) has selected the winners. The winners, by category, are:

Beste onderneming	
AEX	ASML
AMX	Arcadis
AScX/Overig	Grontmij

Beste IR professional	
AEX	Martijn Schuttevaer / Boskalis
AMX	Joost Slooten / Arcadis
AScX/Overig	Carl Hoyer / Wessanen

*“Investor relations is all about maintaining relationships. This means that aspects such as availability and pro-activity are important, but it would not be possible without a good exchange of information. More companies are entertaining a real dialogue, and carefully listen to suggestions of their stakeholders, following up on them as well. It is clear that an increasing number of companies see the importance of having, and investing in, good relationships with investors and analysts. Although the jury was clearly positive about some of the other nominees, the winners stood out by matters such as continuity in IR policy, know-how of the IR professional and the quality of both the financial and non-financial reporting. Very noticeable is that besides the role of management towards investors, companies are increasingly facilitating contact with the supervisory board, which is still not very common. We hope that the celebration of these awards will be an incentive for other Dutch companies to take the next steps in investor relations.”* according to the jury.

This year an additional prize was awarded; for the first time, a so-called life-time achievement award was presented. This prize is being awarded to someone who has demonstrated to recognize the importance of investor relations, who is appreciated by his stakeholders and has regularly won an award. The winner of this life-time achievement award is Huub van Rozendaal, CFO of Sligro.

Roeland Haanen, Chairman NEVIR: *“As CFO of Sligro, Huub van Rozendaal was co-responsible for the daily business, strategy and the investments and acquisitions following the strategy and the financing. The fact that he is always available for investors and analysts deserves much praise. With this lifetime achievement award the board of the NEVIR wants to recognize that Sligro has set a high standard for IR; one which, according to the jury of this year, few companies can emulate. The number of times Sligro has won IR awards, not only with the NEVIR but also at other occasions, is of exceptional quality and the NEVIR wants to honor Huub, at his impending departure as CFO, in this manner. ”*

**Profile NEVIR**

The Dutch Association of Investor Relations (NEVIR) represents the interests of its members. The vast majority of professional investor relations officers in the Netherlands is affiliated with the NEVIR; more than 95% of the AEX; nearly 60% of the AMX companies and 25% of other companies listed on Euronext Amsterdam.

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