



PRESS RELEASE

Dr Bertrand Piccard, involved in sustainable development, is the 2005 winner of the «International Leading Entrepreneur Award» which will be officially awarded at the 8th «Monte Carlo Business Angels Forum» on 2nd December at the Hôtel de Paris.

Each year since 1998 the Monte Carlo Business Angels Forum organises a private lunch-debate welcoming the most prominent international **Business Angels** alongside **Monégasque, French and European personalities**.

On the personal invitation of Mr Gildo P. Pastor, these high profile international investors have the opportunity to meet in an **informal atmosphere** to exchange business ideas and experiences in total **confidence**.

This lunch provides the opportunity to listen to a renowned entrepreneur and to honour his qualities and his achievements through the presentation of the «**International Leading Entrepreneur Award**».

The «International Leading Entrepreneur Award», a prestigious prize

Designed to applaud a model of strategic vision, an ability to innovate and to reflect the values of the spirit of enterprise and professional ethics, **this trophy will be officially awarded to Dr Bertrand Piccard on Friday 2nd December.**

Dr Bertrand Piccard, who follows previous winners such as Renzo Rosso (Diesel Group), Daniel Borel (Logitech), Nicolas G. Hayek (Swatch Group) and Stelios Haji Ioannou (easyGroup), will be interviewed by Bernard Spindler, President of the Monaco Press Club. Bertrand Piccard will talk about the new vision of sustainable development, with reference to his latest project «Solar Impulse» a solar powered aircraft destined to fly around the world.

Piccard, a legend from a dynasty of adventurers

The grandfather, Auguste - who Hergé immortalised as Professor Cuthbert Calculus – was the inventor of the pressurised cabin, and was famous for boarding the first stratospheric hot air balloon to reach a height of 16000 metres in 1931.

The father, Jacques, in 1960 his bathyscaphe descended to a depth of 11000 metres in the Pacific Ocean.

The son, Bertrand, having been the first man to circumnavigate the globe non-stop in a hot air balloon, he is now setting himself a new challenge – code named «Solar Impulse» - to circumnavigate the globe aboard a solar powered aircraft which only uses renewable energy with no polluting emissions.



In addition to a spectacular human feat, the challenge is above all technological. For Bertrand Piccard, it is a question of combining exploration and scientific innovation with sustainable development.

He hopes to draw the public's attention to the necessary changes of how we operate to ensure the energy and ecology of our planet, to give a positive and stimulating image to the protection of the environment, and to show that alternative sources of energy, linked to new technology, can enable us to achieve the impossible.

He will demonstrate to the Business Angels of 8th «Monte Carlo Business Angels forum», that it is possible to adapt today's finances to the environmental demands of tomorrow, to sign up to long-term investment combining ecology and economy: a unique occasion for participants to open up a new dimension to their investment decisions.

Barclays Private Bank, Main Partner of the Monte Carlo Business Angels Forum

Barclays Private Bank renews its sponsoring for the third consecutive year.

Barclays Private Bank is committed to combining traditional values with an innovative approach to provide clients with world-class wealth management solutions, by tailoring advice to the specific circumstances of the client and focusing on achieving their goals.

With specialist teams who have years of experience helping high level entrepreneurs deal effectively with wealth creation, protection and investment it makes Barclays Private Bank ideally placed to sponsor the Monte Carlo Business Angels Forum.

Barclays Private Bank knows the value of forming true partnerships with clients and organisations such as the Monte Carlo Business Angels Forum.

As part of the Barclays Group, the Private Bank offers the security of a major banking institution which has been looking after the interests of clients for over 300 years in over 60 countries. This heritage, hallmarked with innovative thinking, gives clients the confidence to share personal and professional projects in the knowledge that they will receive the best advice.

We are pleased to announce the participation of Mike Pedersen, Managing Director of Barclays Private Bank at the Monte Carlo Business Angels Forum.