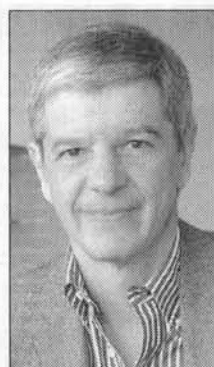


Abbott has come a long way

From its 1888 origins in a North Chicago suburban kitchen, the company's first international affiliate was established in Canada — out of a building in Old Montreal, 75 years ago

MARCELO VIZIO

PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER
ABBOTT LABORATORIES LTD.



As president and general manager of Abbott Canada, Abbott International, I am particularly proud to be a part of an outstanding organization which this year celebrates a landmark 75 years

of operations in Canada.

Along with recognizing three-quarters of a century of Turning Science Into Caring, Abbott was named one of the 50 Best Employers in Canada. Internationally, we embraced a new corporate identity and implemented a rigorous compliance program across all of our affiliates. I would say that this has been quite a memorable year, and it is not over yet.

Abbott was founded in 1888 by Dr. Wallace C. Abbott, a physician who set up business in his North Chicago suburban kitchen. Over the years, Abbott diversified its operations, and today, with 60,000 employees, we market a variety of pharmaceuticals, infant, adult and healthy living nutritional products, diagnostic, diabetes care, vascular and spinal products, as well as animal health products, in more than 130 countries.

Abbott Canada was the first international affiliate to be established outside of the United States. From its beginnings on St. Paul St. in Old Montreal back in 1931, our growth has mirrored the dramatic changes in the pharmaceutical industry and we never looked back. Today, Abbott Canada employs about 1,200 individuals across the country, with more than 300 based out of our modern headquarters in St. Laurent.

At Abbott Canada, our key strategy is enhancing our business diversity within the health-care market. Recent acquisitions such as the Guidant endovascular business, the diabetes care company Therasense or the nutritional company EAS are helping

make Abbott a leader in the segments we've chosen to compete in. In addition to the obvious goal of managing risk and complementing life cycles among different businesses, this strategy contributes to interesting synergies including being able to attack a specific disease from different perspectives.

Agreements to develop molecules discovered by smaller companies, sales and marketing collaboration with companies lacking the necessary infrastructure or geographic presence, or even co-marketing arrangements have mushroomed in our industry.

Partnering is the way our business has evolved and Abbott is ideally positioned to explore and seize these opportunities.

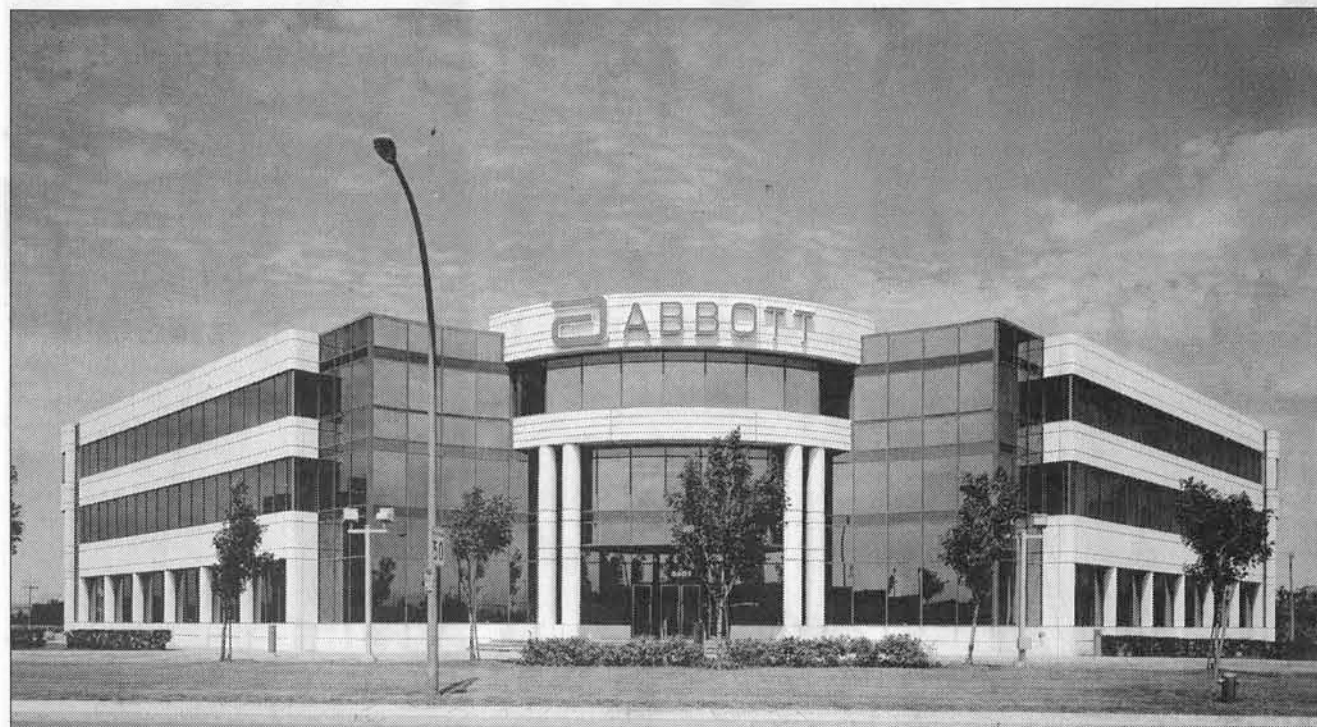
The ever-increasing cost of developing and launching innovative pharmaceutical products that meet important medical needs, along with the increased likelihood of being successful, justify this trend. Abbott was a pioneer in collaborating with our industry colleagues to maximize the value of research efforts and we will continue to do so.

I consider our discovery efforts to be central to our growth. Abbott is concentrating on five key therapeutic areas: autoimmune diseases, cancer, CNS/pain, viral and metabolic diseases, with special emphasis on small molecules and biologics.

Notwithstanding this, we continue to devote research and development energy in areas such as cardiovascular diseases and anti-infectives.

The pipeline is promising. An entirely new molecule, Zemplar (paracalcitriol), for the treatment of patients with impaired kidney function, will be introduced this year as will a new antibiotic Factive, a five-day treatment for acute exacerbation chronic bronchitis.

Humira, a biologic agent for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis (RA), a debilitating autoimmune disease, continues to experience considerable success with the approval of its new indication for the treatment of psoriatic arthritis. As more clinical data becomes available, Humira will demonstrate its potential as a therapy to treat a number of challenging inflammatory



COURTESY OF ABBOTT

About 300 of Abbott Canada's 1,200 employees across the country work out of this modern building in St. Laurent.

autoimmune diseases such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. Through our scientific research, the future is looking brighter for patients suffering from these difficult-to-treat conditions.

Abbott has also developed a new tablet version of our leading protease inhibitor (PI) Kaletra, prescribed worldwide for the treatment of HIV.

Building and maintaining positive, productive and trusting relationships with our stakeholders and customers is at the heart of our business.

Motivated by the desire for greater transparency of our mission, vision and values, Abbott embarked on a global corporate branding initiative that resulted in a stronger, more visible and relevant presence to those we serve. The Abbott identity is built upon our values of pioneering, achieving, caring, and enduring — values that let us make and keep a promise: the Abbott brand promise.

This year Abbott also established the Affiliate Compliance Program. It was created to ensure that each Abbott affiliate can benchmark key standards, policies and procedures that all personnel understand and are committed to upholding. This global initiative is in line with the high ethical standards Abbott has consistently lived up to.

It has often been said that employees are a company's most precious resource. In an industry that is pivotal in our society and

where change is rapid and far-reaching, the need for employees to be committed, creative and resourceful is essential. Abbott's corporate culture recognizes individuality and understands that diversity in its many forms can be accommodated. We appreciate that employees are not all alike nor do they have the same expectations, needs or professional goals.

For 75 years, our personnel have been the source of our pioneering spirit. What better honour for Abbott Canada than to be recognized as one of the 50 Best Employers in the country, a commendation voted on by our own employees.

The fact that our company has made and continues to make a positive difference in people's lives is certainly one of the key reasons for this accolade.

Along with our mission to deliver breakthrough medical products and make a significant impact on the lives of people who require our therapies worldwide, we also recognize how important it is to be active in the communities in which we work and do business.

Abbott directs grants and donations to non-profit organizations that are dedicated to improving the health and quality of life for Canadians.

We are a regular contributor of product donations to Health Partners International of Canada, and in 2006 became the first Canadian health-care company to offer the Uniterria international volunteer program,



COURTESY OF ABBOTT

The company's first international affiliate, Abbott Canada, was born in 1931 on St. Paul St. in Old Montreal.

Leave for Change, to their employees, providing short-term volunteer opportunities in developing countries to six Abbott Canada employees.

Abbott Canada's dedicated team, rich pipeline and entrepreneurial spirit are the building blocks of a promising future that will be guided by our four core values:

- Pioneering** — leading-edge science;
- Achieving** — customer-focused outcomes and world-class execution;
- Caring** — making a difference in people's lives;
- Enduring** — commitment and purpose.