

Press release

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26 Belgian private companies outperform the market

Two new laureates are awarded the Best Managed Companies label

Brussels, 11 May 2023 – This year, the Best Managed Companies programme is celebrating its sixth anniversary in Belgium. The programme recognises the success of privately owned companies that post a strong performance, translating a clear strategy, strong capabilities, and employee engagement into excellent financial results. Twenty-six Belgian companies selected by an independent jury have been awarded the quality label. This sixth edition emphasizes the importance of the commitment of the leadership and employees, one of the four main pillars of the programme.

Companies with a strong leadership and capable of creating high employee commitment outperform the market, and even more so in disruptive times. The Best Managed Companies laureates have shown that they have management teams that lead their organisations through challenging times, while also prioritising people development and the wellbeing of their employees. Through innovative strategies, such as flexible work arrangements, mental health programmes, and continuous learning opportunities, these companies have been able to create a positive and engaging work environment that fosters employee growth and development. This results in successfully attracting, advancing, and retaining their talent.

Françoise Chombar, Chairwoman of Melexis and Best Managed Companies jury president: *"A Best Managed Company achieves long-term success by embracing innovation and inclusion. By valuing diverse perspectives and fostering creativity, these companies not only benefit from increased resilience, but also drive economic growth and demonstrate social commitment. For instance, organisations with policies that promote workplace diversity often have higher employee satisfaction and are more innovative. We will continue to support and guide companies in achieving these goals to further strengthen the Belgian economy."*

The Best Managed Companies programme, run by Deloitte Private in association with Econopolis and KU Leuven, recognises the business success of Belgian private companies from every perspective. Participating companies are assessed against a global framework, which was developed in 1993 in Canada and has since been rolled out in 46 countries worldwide. The independent Best Managed Companies jury evaluates the applicants on four key pillars: strategy, capabilities, commitment, and financial performance.

Bruno Peelaers, Partner Deloitte Private and Best Managed Companies Programme Leader: *"The Best Managed Companies label strengthens the employer brand by highlighting how the strategic focus on talent has grown in private companies in recent years. Increasingly, they give people the opportunity to further develop their talents and skills, empowering both their teams and the organisation as a whole to take on any challenges they may face, together. A well-run company also catches the eye of talent, making it easier to retain and attract people."*

Coaching that makes an impact

The Best Managed Companies programme has been coaching Belgian companies for over six years, keeping their focus on their ambitious goals and challenging them to deliver sustainable success. Throughout the entire process, the companies benefit from the guidance of a Best Managed Companies coach from Deloitte Private.

Nikolaas Tahon, Chairman Deloitte Belgium: *"By joining the Best Managed Companies community, management teams gain access to a powerful network of professionally-run businesses, fostering a culture of success that inspires them to continuously strive for sustainable growth and success. This inspiring community of laureates values collaboration, knowledge sharing, and best practices, allowing members to share their expertise and solutions with each other. We are happy to see that this results in exciting new collaborations and growth opportunities."*

26 companies named Best Managed Company, two for the first time

An independent jury assesses the participants' management capabilities against the four pillars of the Best Managed Companies framework. Françoise Chombar, Chairwoman of Melexis, is the president of this external jury. She's assisted by members of academia and the business community:

- Geert Noels, CEO and Chief Economist Econopolis;
- Rik Jacob, former CEO of Ardo;
- Koenraad Debackere, Professor at KU Leuven;
- Yves Noël, Chairman of Nomainvest and honorary Chairman of NMC International; and
- Victoria Vandeputte, CIO at Diversi Foods.

This year, Beddeleem and Alides were recognised with the Best Managed Companies label for the first time.

List of Best Managed Companies laureates 2023

- **New laureates:** Companies that have been awarded the Best Managed Companies label for the first time.
- **Requalifying laureates (years 2, 3):** Companies that have re-applied and successfully retained their Best Managed designation for two or three years.
- **Gold laureates (year 4):** Companies that have maintained their Best Managed designation for four consecutive years.
- **Requalifying Gold laureates (years 5, 6):** Companies that have successfully retained the Best Managed Companies label for five or six consecutive years.

Aertssen Group	Antwerp	Requalifying laureate
Alides	East Flanders	New laureate
Beddeleem	East Flanders	New laureate
Belgian Pork Group	West Flanders	Requalifying laureate
CE+T Group	Liège	Requalifying Gold laureate
E.D.&A.	Antwerp	Requalifying Gold laureate
EASI	Brabant Wallon	Requalifying Gold laureate
Easyfairs	Brussels	Requalifying Gold laureate
Elneo	Liège	Requalifying laureate
Golazo	Limburg	Requalifying Gold laureate
Locinox	West Flanders	Requalifying laureate
LVD Group	West Flanders	Requalifying Gold laureate
N-SIDE	Brabant Wallon	Requalifying laureate

Provan	Limburg	Gold laureate
QbD Group	Antwerp	Gold laureate
Saey	West Flanders	Gold laureate
Soudal	Antwerp	Requalifying Gold laureate
Sprimoglass	Liège	Requalifying laureate
Stadsbader	West Flanders	Gold laureate
Technord	Hainaut	Requalifying laureate
Vanbreda Risk & Benefits	Antwerp	Requalifying Gold laureate
Vandenbussche	East Flanders	Gold laureate
Vandersanden Group	Limburg	Requalifying Gold laureate
Vanheede Environment Group	West Flanders	Gold laureate
VK architects+engineers	East Flanders	Requalifying laureate
Zuidnatie	Antwerp	Gold laureate

About Best Managed Companies

In 2017 Deloitte Private launched the Belgium Best Managed Companies programme in collaboration with Econopolis, joined by KU Leuven in 2019. The programme aims to provide guidance and recognition for privately owned and managed Belgian companies that achieve excellent results.

The Best Managed Companies programme is an international label denoting quality and excellence. The programme was developed in 1993 in Canada and has since been rolled out in 46 countries worldwide. More on info on www.bestmanaged.be

Deloitte in Belgium

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