

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

EPIDERMA OBTAINS ISO 9001-2000 CERTIFICATION: A FEAT OF DISTINCTION IN THE CANADIAN ESTHETICS TREATMENT INDUSTRY

Quebec City, Sept. 6, 2006 — EPIDERMA, the largest laser hair-removal network in the country and the pioneer in an avant-garde industry, has been granted its ISO 9001-2000 certification, an extraordinary achievement in the Canadian esthetics treatment field.

The certification, granted by the Canadian accrediting organization Intertek, is valid for three years, subject to an annual audit. It attests that the company adheres to international generic quality management systems standards.

“Customer satisfaction has always been the cornerstone of our company’s business strategy,” stated EPIDERMA president Pierre Montminy. “It is exceedingly gratifying to see that the quality management aspect of our services meets the rigorous demands of ISO 9001-2000 certification.”

A company must adhere to and apply certain quality management principles to obtain the certification. These principles include customer focus, leadership, involvement of people, systems approach to management, continual improvement, mutually beneficial supplier relationships, defining the activities necessary to best achieve the desired results, process approach and problem solving.

Obtaining ISO certification is normally a process that takes 12-18 months, but EPIDERMA was successful on its first try, in less than eight months, impressively meeting the highest standards of professionalism in the world.

“This operation is a validation that our organization has the mechanisms in place to consistently improve the management and quality of our services and properly respond to the specific requirements of each individual client,” added Diane Godbout, whose primary mandate as EPIDERMA’s director of quality standards, was to oversee the certification process. “Customer service and the training program we give our technicians are at the core of our major attributes.”

EPIDERMA’s training program received high praise recently from Dr. Marc Salomon, a European specialist in prevention and author with Éditions Pasteur publishing group. After conducting an evaluation of EPIDERMA’s training program, he concluded: “For safety reasons, having a properly trained staff is essential in laser hair removal. And EPIDERMA’s training program fully addresses this concern,” Dr. Salomon noted in his August 29, 2006 report.

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“EPIDERMA’s training program is extremely well-rounded. It is comprehensive and well thought out. It is also important to note that EPIDERMA’s equipment is of high quality and is perfectly compatible with the staff that is required to conduct the sessions,” he added.

EPIDERMA, whose head office is in Quebec City, currently has 20 clinics and 60 treatment centres. The company, which employs 180 people, proudly embodies the dynamism, scope and vision of local entrepreneurs.

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