

## PRESS RELEASE

### **The Franco-British Business Awards celebrate Franco-British business Franco-British business success despite current political backdrop**

**London, 4 November 2021** – *The French Chamber of Great Britain is proud to announce the winners of its 2021 Franco-British Business Awards.*

Colas Rail, International SOS, Lycée International de Londres Winston Churchill, Maintenant Sustaining Now, Scaleflex and Schneider Electric are the winners of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Franco-British Business Awards.

The awards recognise the ambition, tenacity and innovation of the six winners who, in a year of challenges and uncertainty, went above and beyond to support their people and communities, to tackle the climate crisis and to nurture the Franco-British relationship.

Fabienne Viala, President of the French Chamber and Chairman of Bouygues UK, comments: “It feels more important than ever for us to celebrate the good business - as well as culture, ties and values - that exists between both countries. We are proud that the Franco-British Business Awards play a key part in this, by recognising the Franco-British organisations that stand out through their excellence.”

The winners were celebrated by the Franco-British business community during a black-tie dinner organised by the French Chamber of Great Britain and sponsored by the *Conseillers du Commerce Extérieur de la France – UK* at the Bulgari Hotel on 4 November. The awards were supported by Airbus, Browne Jacobson, Dassault Systemes and EDF.

– ENDS –

## NOTE TO EDITORS

### The awards and winners

**Award: Community Impact, sponsored by Dassault Systemes**

This award recognises a company which has put in place support for local or national communities. Its work must have had a significant, meaningful and sustainable impact on the community it supports, addressing social challenges, including in response to the extraordinary challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Winner: [Maintenant Sustaining Now](#)**

Positive social and environmental impact are embedded into Maintenant's DNA. This EdTech social enterprise educates future leaders through trainings, corporate workshops and sustainable card games, serving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

**Award: Franco-British Collaboration**

This award recognises an initiative which has seen a French and a British business collaborating to deliver a significant project. In the aftermath of Brexit, this award will celebrate an initiative that contributes to maintaining a close relationship and continuing the collaboration between France and the UK.

**Winner: [Colas Rail](#)**

Reinforcing the Franco-British relationship through its alliances, projects and cultural exchanges, the French giant Colas Rail helped transform the West Midlands by delivering a light rail programme including close collaboration with local authorities.

**Award: Net Zero Champion, sponsored by Airbus**

This award recognises an organisation that is going above and beyond to champion Net Zero. The organisation must be able to demonstrate that it has put in place a tangible, significant and verifiable transformation plan to achieve Net Zero.

**Winner: [Schneider Electric](#)**

Pioneer and world leader in sustainability, Schneider Electric impressed the jury which included the Chair of the Climate Change Committee Lord Deben, with the scope of its initiatives and its work to reduce carbon emissions throughout its supply chain.

**Award: Tech Launch, sponsored by Browne Jacobson and in partnership with La French Tech London**

This award recognises a young business in the tech sector with outstanding technological achievements and an ability to harness these thanks to a compelling vision and sound financial and commercial strategy.

**Winner: [Scaleflex](#)**

Launched only a couple of years ago, Scaleflex already helps many businesses optimise their media assets to improve their customers' digital experience and demonstrated great evolution and forecast.

**Award: Wellbeing in Crisis, sponsored by EDF**

This award recognises an organisation which has put in place an initiative to support its people's mental health and/or wellbeing during the pandemic. The organisation must be able to demonstrate that it has effectively and actively looked after its people and promoted practices that prioritise improved mental health and/or wellbeing throughout Covid-19.

**Winner: [International SOS](#)**

Relying on its long-term experience caring for people and its strong network of experts, International SOS launched its wellbeing programme long before the pandemic. When the pandemic struck, the organisation took numerous measures to support their people's wellbeing, providing a safe environment for work and educating their managers and teams.

**Award: Coup de Coeur**

This award recognises a company which has not won in its category but still impressed the jury by its project, dedication and vision.

**Winner: [Lycée International de Londres Winston Churchill](#)**

While schools were required to reinvent themselves due to the pandemic, the *Lycée International de Londres Winston Churchill* implemented a series of measures to support their employees and students and used their creativity to take care of their mental and physical health and create a sense of community.

Further details are available the [French Chamber website](#).

## About the Chair of the jury

Pascal Boris CBE, Chair of the jury is a Business Angel, the Co-founder of Le Cercle d'Outre-Manche, and Honorary President of the French Chamber of Great Britain.

## About the organiser

### **The French Chamber of Great Britain**

With over 400 companies of all sizes and sectors in membership, the French Chamber of Great Britain is the hub of key relationships, conversations, insights and support for Franco-British business. They deliver real value, opportunity, connections and voice for Franco-British business, representing the views and interests of its membership to policymakers and key stakeholders on both sides of the Channel.

Established in 1883, the Chamber is part of the network of French Chambers of Commerce and Industry Abroad, spanning 124 Chambers in 95 countries. The diversity and high profile of its members - 40 per cent of which are non-French nationals - contributes to its success and reputation acquired over its 138 years of existence.

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