

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

## Clarification Statement on CGC National Quality Program and Direct Expansion Technology

**Montréal, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009** – The Canadian GeoExchange Coalition (CGC) announced today that due to circumstances out of its control, the incorporation of direct expansion technology (DX) into its Global Quality GeoExchange Program has been delayed for an unspecified period of time.

CGC would also like to remind stakeholders that CGC has never had control over any grant and subsidy programs and the CGC does not decide if and when DX technology will qualify for financing and grant programs anywhere in Canada. The decision to require CGC System Certification is the prerogative of governments, utilities and other stakeholders as they see fit to suit their own programs' objectives. CGC itself has never offered and currently does not offer any grant or subsidy.

Furthermore, CGC would like to remind industry stakeholders and customers that CGC has never offered system certification retroactively and therefore cannot offer retroactive DX system certification. CGC will start offering DX system certification only once installers and designers have been fully accredited for design and installation of this technology.

Since late 2006, CGC has worked diligently to engage a targeted amendment to the C-448 standard by the Canadian Standards Association (CSA). CGC is aware that the process towards such an amendment was finally initiated earlier this year, more than 18 months after the original request was filed by the CGC. However, CGC does not have any control on the process and timeframe. A draft amendment is currently under review and will likely be published soon for public comments.

“We cannot move forward as expected. Much to our own disappointment, we are unfortunately held hostage by a process we do not control” said Denis Tanguay, CGC President & CEO. “At this time, CGC has no choice but to put on hold the incorporation of DX into its Global Quality GeoExchange Program until at least a draft amendment is published for public comments by the CSA” he added.

While waiting for this amendment to be finalised, CGC has completed work on a specific DX training program which was first scheduled to be deployed in April 2009. Unfortunately, the offering of this course has also been held up by the delays on the standard development side. CGC cannot deploy a training program which does not reflect the C448 DX amendment.

In the past months, while waiting for the amendment, CGC has however completed adaptation of its application forms for installer and designer accreditations as well as for system certification to reflect the introduction of DX technology. CGC has since been unable to release these documents to the public as the final content of the C-448 amendment may have an impact on accreditation requirements.

*The Canadian GeoExchange™ Coalition acts as the industry catalyst to unite private and public sector stakeholders, and to expand the market for geoexchange™ technology in Canada. As the nexus of information, training, certification, industry standards and public awareness, CGC works with stakeholders to build the necessary infrastructure to foster the growth of the Canadian geoexchange™ industry. For more information, visit [www.geoexchange.ca](http://www.geoexchange.ca)*