



Press release

17th June, 2011

# The founder of FICOSA, new Ambassador of *Barcelona Entrepreneur Capital*

- **Josep Maria Pujol has received this award in recognition to his contribution in the positioning of Barcelona as an entrepreneur city, thanks to his successful experience as businessman.**
- **The award was presented yesterday in BizBarcelona, the entrepreneurs' exhibition that received more than 13,000 visitors.**

On June 16th, during entrepreneurs' exhibition BizBarcelona that closed with 13,000 visitors, took place the presentation of the award from the City Council *Barcelona Entrepreneur Capital*. During this event it was also announced the national winner of the *Entrepreneur XXI* award sponsored by La Caixa, a national savings bank.

The event took place in CaixaForum in Barcelona and gathered the regional winners of the Entrepreneur XXI, the territorial organisers and all public and private agents linked to the entrepreneurship and company creation of Spain. The event was chaired by Estela Gallego, president of ENISA (National Company of Innovation) and General Manager of Politics for SMEs, Marcelino Armenter, associated executive general manager of La Caixa and Jordi Hereu, acting Barcelona Mayor.

Hereu nominated the businessman Josep Maria Pujol, founder and chairman of the multinational company FICOSA, as Ambassador of *Barcelona Entrepreneur Capital*. The award is recognition for the task of an entrepreneur with an outstanding international business career who has contributed to the positioning of Barcelona as an entrepreneur city and that, at the same time, is an example for the local entrepreneurs.

The acting mayor assured that "the award means a recognition for the task as ambassador of Barcelona that Mr. Pujol has been –and will continue- doing for many years, encouraging the young ones an entrepreneur's attitude and contributing to the economic growth of the country as well as to the job creation".

This award was created in 2010 within the frame of the Barcelona Entrepreneur City Awards that were created thirteen years ago to reward newly settled companies from the city for their entrepreneurial initiative and innovation to contribute to the economic growth and job creation. Last year the first award went for Isak Andic, founder of the fashion multinational company MANGO.

Barcelona City Hall gives the title of Ambassador of Barcelona Entrepreneur City, of a symbolic and honorific value, to honour the awarded person with the role of city representative and international and local promoter of the entrepreneurship and encourages him to participate in important events related to enterprising initiatives and business growth.

### **Josep Maria Pujol, a success history**

Josep Maria Pujol, founder and chairman of FICOSA, appreciated the award declaring that “being an ambassador of Barcelona is an honour and a personal and professional challenge, since it means to support a city with a high potential”. During the event he encouraged the audience to start a business, because “the future of the country specially depends on entrepreneurs” and stressed that it is important “to be faithful to develop projects that can be a profit for all the society”

He concluded with the idea that has represented his career in FICOSA: Enterprising is in the past, in the present and in the future; God willing.

### **About FICOSA**

FICOSA is an Spanish based industrial group and a global leader in research, development, production and marketing of automotive systems and parts. Founded in 1949, the company, with headquarters in Barcelona (Spain), holds a team close to 8,000 employees and manufacturing plants, technological centres and offices located throughout 19 countries in Europe, North America, South America and Asia.

The Group invests 4% of its income in R&D, and operates one of the top technology development centres in Spain addressed to the automotive, electronics, energy and communications industries. FICOSA has positioned itself for the future as a world leader in electronic systems with a global and more diversified business agenda and an expanded added value product line.

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