Parques de Sintra is the best service SME of the year according to Exame magazine

- Exame elects the best SMEs across 24 sectors of activity
- Distinction attributed in the 21st annual ranking of 1,000 SMEs by Exame magazine

Sintra, 22 December 2015 – The Exame magazine has elected Parques de Sintra as the best small and medium sized enterprise (SME) in the service sector. The election results were published by Exame magazine and featuring the full ranking of Portugal’s 1,000 best SMEs. In the general ranking, Parques de Sintra registered 342nd place.

Ever since 1995, Exame magazine has nominated the best SMEs across 24 different sectors of activity with Parques de Sintra heading the service sector list that includes a total of 46 SMEs. The distinction, which the company receives for the very first time, is awarded through analysis of the annual management report and accounts of each company incorporating the application of a calculation that serves to evaluate the data and financial ratios that then results in the attribution of points across each respective category.

In the perspective of Manuel Baptista, president of the Parques de Sintra Board of Directors, this award “closes a fairly gratifying year for the company as regards our continued efforts to preserve the natural and cultural values located in the areas making up the Sintra and Queluz cultural landscapes”.

Parques de Sintra receives no state funding and depends exclusively on the revenues generated by visitors and ticket, store and cafeteria receipts alongside the rental of sites for special events and whenever possible applying to national and European sources of project funding. Ever since its founding in 2000, the company has experienced constant growth and in 2014 turning over a total of €17,612,536 in revenue alongside overall investment of €4,113,097 in restoring the natural and built heritage under its management.
In order to guarantee thorough accuracy in its 1,000 SME ranking and the corresponding nomination of the best companies in each sector, Exame is partnered both by Informa D&B, the world leader in business information provision and responsible for data collection, and by Deloitte, which then audits the figures.

The award ceremony will take place on 19th January 2016 in the Main Hall of the Caixa Geral de Depósitos headquarters in Lisbon.

- End -

Parques de Sintra - Monte da Lua, S.A. (PSML) is an entirely state owned company founded in 2000 in order to meet the challenges arising out of the UNESCO classification of the Sintra Cultural Landscape as a World Heritage site. The entity does not resort to the State Budget and the restoration and maintenance of the heritage in its care are ensured by the revenues resulting from sales at its ticket offices, stores, cafeterias and the rental of facilities for the hosting of events.

In 2014, the sites managed by PSML (the Park and National Palace of Pena, the National Palaces of Sintra and Queluz, the Chalet of the Countess of Edla, the Moorish Castle, the Palace and Gardens of Monserrate, the Convent of the Capuchos and the Portuguese School of Equestrian Art) welcomed approximately 1,928,000 visits, around 86% of whom were international in origin. In 2013, 2014 and 2015, PSML was distinguished with the World Travel Award for the “World’s Leading Conservation Company”.

The PSML shareholders are the General Directorate of the Treasury and Finance (representing the Portuguese state), the Portuguese Institute of Nature and Forestry Conservation, the Portuguese Tourism Board and Sintra Municipal Council.

www.parquesdesintra.pt or www.facebook.com/parquesdesintra

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