

Ford Named A 2015 World's Most Ethical Company By Ethisphere Institute; Only Automaker To Earn Designation

Thursday 12 March, 2015

Ford Motor Company has been named to Ethisphere Institute's 2015 list of World's Most Ethical Companies®.

The honour comes at a time in which the way a company conducts its business is viewed as every bit as important as the products and services it provides, new research shows.

"This award celebrates doing business the right way, and making the right choices every day," said Ford Motor Company Executive Chairman, Bill Ford. "Ethics and corporate citizenship are important factors that affect a company's reputation and success, and we are proud Ford is the only automaker to have received this honour for six consecutive years."

The World's Most Ethical Company assessment is based on a framework developed by the Ethisphere Institute to assess an organisation's performance in an objective, consistent and standardised manner. The honour is given based on top ratings in five categories – ethics and compliance; corporate citizenship and responsibility; culture of ethics, governance and leadership; innovation; and reputation.

"The World's Most Ethical Companies embrace the correlation between ethical business practice and improved company performance," said Timothy Erblich, Ethisphere chief executive officer. "Earning this recognition involves the collective action of a global work force from the top down. We congratulate everyone at Ford for this extraordinary achievement."

The honour correlates with research showing a reputation for ethics and trust plays a role in consumers' purchase decisions. Last year, according to the 2015 Harris Poll Reputation Quotient, 53 per cent of the U.S. public learned more about a company before doing business with the organisation. More than one third of the respondents decided not to do business with a company based on the perception of a negative reputation.

Ford sees this trend shaping consumers of all ages – especially younger customers. Generation Z members born after 1993 are 54 per cent more likely than their millennial counterparts to say they want to have an impact on the world, and these consumers do business with companies that share their values, according to a study from research firm Sparks & Honey.

For more information about the methodology and to view the complete list of the 2015 World's Most Ethical Companies, visit <http://ethisphere.com/worlds-most-ethical/wme-honorees/>.

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About Ford Motor Company

Ford Motor Company, a global automotive industry leader based in Dearborn, Michigan, manufactures or distributes automobiles across six continents. With about 187,000 employees and 62 plants worldwide, the company's automotive brands include Ford and Lincoln. The company provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company. For more information regarding Ford and its products worldwide, please visit <http://corporate.ford.com>.

About the Ethisphere Institute

The Ethisphere® Institute is the global leader in defining and advancing the standards of ethical business practices that fuel corporate character, marketplace trust and business success. Ethisphere has deep expertise in measuring and defining core ethics standards using data-driven insights that help companies enhance corporate character. Ethisphere honors superior achievement through its World's Most Ethical Companies® recognition program, provides a community of industry experts with the Business Ethics Leadership Alliance (BELA) and showcases trends and best practices in ethics with the publication of Ethisphere Magazine and The World's Most Ethical Companies Executive Briefing. Ethisphere is also the leading provider of independent verification of corporate ethics and compliance programs. More information about Ethisphere can be found at: <http://ethisphere.com>.

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