

## **Finnish World Class Innovations Introduced in At Finnish American Chamber of Commerce Minnesota (FACC-MN) Annual Meeting**

**At the Annual Meeting of FACC-MN on Oct. 12, 2011, we heard an interesting keynote speech "Finnish Innovation and Fostering Innovation to Marketplace" by Dr. Kari Sipilä, CEO of [Future Innovations](#) from Espoo, Finland. He is one of the leading innovation specialists in Finland with a long domestic and international career.**

At Finnish American Chamber of Commerce Minnesota Annual Meeting, Dr. Kari Sipila from Future Innovations in Finland introduced Finnish innovation activities and some great Finnish innovations. Finland is ranked highly in the competitiveness and innovation in the World. The number of patents and use of IPR is among the world leaders per capita. Additionally, young Finns were first in the OCED in sciences, second in mathematics and reading.

Education, knowledge and knowhow as well as cooperation between public and private sectors and international competitiveness are some of the key factors in the innovation and technology policies in Finland. The new Aalto University in Helsinki--created in the merger of Helsinki University of Technology, Helsinki School of Economics and Design School--leads the way to high quality education, research collaboration and economically successful innovations.

Finnish experts have during world leaders during the 20th century in wood and paper products The metal industry grew remarkably with cruise ships, lifts, diesel engines, etc. During the last 20 years information technology has been the key factor of growth in Finland, based on global success of Nokia in mobile phones. New innovations following Linux in the software and gaming fields include Angry Birds, Habbo Hotel and many other world famous games.

Also, environmental and clean technology have great importance in the fields of successfully innovations, technology and international business.

A large number of Finland based companies are active in Minnesota. Accordingly the Finnish markets as well as Finland as a gateway to the growing Russian markets are an important trading direction to companies in Minnesota. Also collaboration in education and research and development are good channels for larger innovation and business activities between Minnesota and Finland, said Dr. Sipila.

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FACC-MN is partnering with the State of Minnesota Trade organizations, Finnish and Minnesota businesses, other Finnish American Chambers of Commerce in the USA, and fellow European Chambers of Commerce in Minnesota to bring our members opportunities to meet industry representatives and to network. Stay tuned for further information about these exciting events.  
Website: <http://www.facc-mn.com/>