



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Welsh businesses battle it out for top UK Business Award

The UK's battered economy hasn't held back seven award-winning Welsh firms as they go on to compete for a top business accolade across three categories.

Media Planning and Buying agency Zeffa, based at Caspian Point, won Wales' Most Promising New Business, sponsored by BT and Green Light Products Ltd, of Parkway, which makes eco-friendly packaging materials, picked up the region's The Green Award, sponsored by Base.

The Maltings Limited, of East Tyndall Street, which provides records management and office letting services, was the winner of the Welsh regional award for Excellence in Customer Service, sponsored by AXA PPP healthcare.

High tech outfit Abriox Limited, based in Imperial Park, won the Welsh Business of the Year award, sponsored by Westfield Health and Nathan Bowles, who runs recruitment agency Smart Solutions Recruitment Ltd in Langstone, won the Staples-sponsored Entrepreneur of the Year.

Industrial Automation and Control Ltd, a 67-strong business which designs, makes and installs electrical control systems, was the winner in the regional Award for Excellence in People Development, sponsored by CIPD and Achievement in International Business sponsored by RBS and Natwest.

Professional Driver Services (PDS), based in Holton Road, picked up an award for Innovation Through Technology in Wales, an award sponsored by Dell. They spotted a gap in the market when it won a contract with the Devon & Cornwall Constabulary to educate speeding motorists.

The companies will now go through to battle it out for the UK-wide national trophy in the British Chambers of Commerce's Chamber Awards 2010 later this year.

Graham Morgan, Director of South Wales Chamber of Commerce, said: "We've been delighted with the consistently high standard of confident companies out there that have been flying the flag for Welsh business, despite the uncertain times we find ourselves in.

"These strong businesses have demonstrated that they are thriving - and they're doing this through innovation, hard work and determination to succeed at the highest level. These awards have revealed some good news for the Welsh economy – which is good news for us all."

Having won a regional award, the seven businesses are now in the running for the national award in their category, as well as the chance to collect the **Award for Outstanding Business Achievement** – with a top prize of **£25,000** and runners up prizes of **£15,000** and **£10,000**.

There are eight categories, backed by high profile sponsors including RBS and NatWest, Westfield Health, Dell, Staples, and CIPD. The national winners will be announced at a ceremony at London's Hurlingham Club on November 25 2010.

Ends

Notes for Editors

For more press information please contact Laurian Corner at the South Wales Chamber on 01633 242715 or laurian.corner@southwaleschamber.co.uk