



Chamber Awards will showcase best of British businesses in 10th anniversary year

This year, the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) is proud to be hosting its tenth annual Chamber Awards. Businesses across the country are invited to take part and showcase their talents and achievements – with the chance of winning a £25,000 cash prize.

The Awards will be themed around the BCC's 'Business is Good for Britain' campaign, highlighting the positive contribution that businesses make to the UK economy and to society as a whole.

The competition is designed to recognise and promote the very best of British business through a series of regional heats, culminating in the National Final, which takes place in London on November 28th.

Companies across the country can enter into eight categories, covering online business, exports, new business, personal achievement, people development, marketing, innovation, and campaigning.

British Chambers of Commerce President, Martyn Pellew, said:

"I frequently visit businesses of all different sizes and from within a number of different sectors across the length and breadth of the UK. It is so inspiring to see so many of these companies finding innovative ways to grow their businesses, which will in turn create jobs and wealth, and drive our economic recovery.

"I hear hundreds of fantastic stories from dynamic companies about how they are making a positive contribution to their local communities, and finding new markets for their products and services both at home and abroad. In the tenth anniversary year of our annual Awards, we want to celebrate these success stories more than ever, and tell the world why Business is Good for Britain."

Ramsden International secured this honour last year after impressing judges with the way the company engages its employees in a variety of training schemes.

Philip Evans, Commercial Director of Ramsden International, said:

"We have always put considerable store by the importance and mutual benefit of supporting and encouraging our employees to engage in a variety of training courses. These range from in house technical updates through to specialist professional development courses and MBA's. The financial prize the company received for winning the award has helped ensure that every employee has an agreed development plan with relevant training which we hope will enable Ramsden International achieve even greater success in the future."

The closing date for entries is June 28th, with firms assessed at a regional level and the winners going through to compete in the National Final, where they will be judged by a panel of business leaders and entrepreneurs. The overall winners are then announced in November alongside the prestigious Business of the Year award, with a cash prize of £25,000 awarded to the winning business.

Ends

Notes to editors:

The BCC Chamber Awards takes place on November 29th 2013 in London and is supported by RBS Group, BT Business, DHL Express, Composite Legal Expenses and Qdos Consulting.

To enter online, go to www.chamberawards.co.uk or for further information you can contact the Chamber Awards Team on 020 7654 5800, email awards@chamberawards.co.uk or follow @chamberawards on Twitter.

The full list of categories this year is:

- Online Business of the Year
- Exporter of the Year
- Most Promising New Business
- Outstanding Personal Achievement
- Commitment to People Development
- Marketing Campaign of the Year
- The Sustainability Award
- Excellence in Innovation
- Chamber of the Year
- Most Effective Campaigning Award
- Excellence in International Trade
- Excellence in Membership Services

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The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) sits at the heart of a powerful nationwide network of 53 Accredited Chambers of Commerce, serving over **104,000 businesses** across the UK, which **employ over five million people**. For more information visit: www.britishchambers.org.uk