



## TWO MERSEYSIDE COMPANIES IN RUNNING FOR TOP BUSINESS AWARDS

Two innovative Merseyside companies are in the running for a leading UK industry award.

ChargePoint Technology Limited, based in Evans Road, Liverpool, was voted the North West's Most Promising New Business, sponsored by BT Business, while Knowsley-based Elixir Foundations CIC picked up the region's Business of the Year Award, sponsored by Westfield Health.

They are both now finalists in their categories for the UK title in the Chamber Awards hosted by the British Chambers of Commerce, which were created to celebrate the UK's most successful businesses.

John Longworth, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce, said: "The health of the UK's economy relies upon the confidence of our businesses to grow, invest and create jobs. That's why the British Chambers of Commerce has been working hard to ensure government makes good on its promises to encourage enterprise, and do everything in its power to help businesses grow.

"All the good things we want to see in society depend on business and wealth creation. These awards provide a snapshot of some of the most impressive companies from across the country. Many of these business owners are working day in day out to build upon the companies they have built from scratch, creating jobs in local communities, and contributing to the economic recovery we so desperately need. We're delighted to be able to celebrate the success of these companies through the Chamber Awards."

ChargePoint Technology, set up in 2009, manufactures and supplies high precision, containment valves to the pharmaceutical industry to protect staff who handle potent powders, such as anti cancer drugs. In less than three years it has built up a client base that includes the world's top 20 largest pharmaceutical groups and exports to the US and Western Europe. It is now focusing on China, India and Japan.

Elixir, launched in 2008, recycles PVCu, polythene, glass, metal, cardboard and paper on behalf of public, private and third sector organisations throughout the North West. But what sets it apart is that its priority is to provide meaningful employment opportunities for socially excluded groups and individuals. The company is

committed to demonstrating how you can generate profits and at the same time help people to change their lives and environment and has ambitious plans for a national roll out during the next three years.

Having won a regional award, both companies are now competing for the national title in their categories as well as the chance to collect the **Award for Outstanding Business Achievement** – with a top prize of **£25,000** and runner up prizes of **£15,000** and **£10,000**.

There are nine categories, backed by high profile sponsors including RBS and NatWest, BT Business, BT Directories, Dell, DHL Express, the British Standards Institution (BSI), AXA PPP healthcare and Westfield Health. The national winners will be announced at a ceremony at London's Grand Connaught Rooms on November 24th 2011.

**ENDS**

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**Notes to editors:**

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) is the national voice of local business.

The BCC sits at the heart of a powerful nationwide network of Accredited Chambers of Commerce, serving over **100,000 businesses** across the UK, which **employ over five million people**.

For more information visit: **[www.britishchambers.org.uk](http://www.britishchambers.org.uk)**

There are nine categories in the annual Chamber Awards. Most Promising New Business, sponsored by BT Business, Entrepreneur of the Year, sponsored by BT Directories, Business of the Year, sponsored by Westfield Health, Innovation Through Technology, sponsored by Dell, Achievement in International Business, sponsored by DHL Express, The Sustainability Award, sponsored by the British Standards Institution (BSI), Excellence in Customer Service, sponsored by AXA PPP healthcare, Excellence in People Development, sponsored by Composite Legal Expenses and Finding New International Markets, sponsored by RBS and NatWest. The Award for Outstanding Business Achievement, sponsored by RBS and NatWest, is awarded to the overall winner, selected from any category.