



**Embargoed until 1st October 2012**

## **Basingstoke company enjoys Chamber Awards success**

A local employee relocation specialist is proving that 'Business is Good for Britain' after embedding the low carbon agenda into its everyday activities.

HCR Group beat off challengers from across the South of England to secure the Sustainability Award, impressing judges with its ability to use environmental best practice to drive its expansion in the public and private sector.

With 30 years experience under its belt, the company is the UK leader in employee relocation assistance, developing an enviable reputation for delivering on promises and innovative thinking.

The Basingstoke firm operates a pro-active environmental policy and carbon management action plan that has helped it become the first organisation of its type in the world to achieve the Carbon Neutral title.

Furthermore its 'Sustainable Relocation Promise' – launched in 2010 – works in partnership with clients to reduce the impact of their relocation. Over 1300 trees have already been planted and a video linked to this initiative has had 10,000 views on YouTube.

Being eco-friendly has made good commercial sense for HCR, with considerable financial savings made through reducing business miles, implementing 'energy saving' methods around the office and a commitment to recycling.

President of the British Chambers of Commerce Martyn Pellew said: "There has never been a more important time for businesses to showcase the amazing work they are doing on a day-to-day basis.

"The Chamber Awards is a perfect platform for them to do just that and receive the recognition and profile they deserve for helping move the economy forward and create employment, often in local areas."

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) Chamber Awards 2012 is committed to finding the best businesses in Britain through a series of regional heats followed by a National Final, due to be held at London's Guildhall on November 29th.

Now in its 9th year, the competition is one of the showcase events for the 'Business is Good for Britain' campaign that highlights the role of business as a positive force for the UK recovery and the success of local communities and individuals.

HCR Group, a member of the Hampshire Chamber of Commerce, is one of nine regional winners in the South of England, who will now go forward and compete for the national titles in their respective categories. All will have a chance to win 'Outstanding Business Achievement' and a £25,000 cash prize, courtesy of the RBS Group.

Other successful companies in the region include:

- Acumen Business Law's Penina Shepherd (Entrepreneur of the Year)
- Carswell Gould (Marketing Campaign of the Year)
- Jacksons Fencing (Business of the Year)
- Minimise Ltd (Most Promising New Business)
- MPR IT Solutions (Commitment to People Development)
- Nova IT Solutions (Excellence in Customer Service)
- Quorum Technologies (Achievement in International Business)
- Thomsons Online Benefits (Excellence in Innovation)

Martyn concluded: "A record number of firms have taken part this year, all determined to prove that 'Business is Good for Britain!'"

The Chamber Awards 2012 is supported by the RBS Group, BT Business, Dell, DHL Express, Westfield Health and Acua Limited.

For further information or to book your place at the National Awards Final, visit **[www.chamberawards.co.uk](http://www.chamberawards.co.uk)**

**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)**