

Embargoed until 1st October 2012

Scunthorpe firm lands Chamber Awards success

A Scunthorpe company is proving that 'Business is Good for Britain' after investment in its people helped boost sales and improve staff morale.

HBP Systems beat off challengers from across Yorkshire and Humber to secure the Commitment to People Development Award (sponsored by Acua Limited), impressing judges with its unique approach to training and skills.

The company, which has over 20 years experience in providing business management and accounting software, has launched a dedicated Apprenticeship Scheme, with six apprentices now employed.

Four of these are currently working on a 3-month rotation scheme that sees them spend time in software support, IT, marketing and finance.

All of this has given HBP the platform it needs to target new customers, with turnover up 12% so far in 2012.

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.

HBP Systems, which is a member of the Hull and Humber Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Shipping is one of eight regional winners in Yorkshire and Humber, 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:

- Brandon Medical Company (Excellence in Innovation)
- Freshney Place Shopping Centre (Marketing Campaign of the Year)
- INATIV's Tony Sykes (Entrepreneur of the Year)
- Ramsden International (Business of the Year and Achievement in International Business)
- Shore Stewart Solicitors (Most Promising New Business)
- St Stephen's Shopping Centre (Sustainability Award)
- Weston Group (Excellence in Customer Service)

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**

ENDS

For further information, please contact Russ Cockburn on 07812 600271 or email russ@dc-pr.co.uk

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**