



***Celebrating excellence & achievement
in business in the region***

HOW TO ENTER

Complete and return the entry form opposite to register your interest in entering the Awards. Upon receipt of your entry form we will send you guidelines to assist you in the preparation of your submission.

JUDGING

A written submission of around four A4 pages relevant to the Awards criteria is required for each entry. The submission may be accompanied by other material that supports the entry. The submission will be considered by the judges and site visits/interviews will be arranged at their discretion. Three finalists will be chosen for each of the Awards.

PRIZES & PRESENTATION DINNER

The winners of each of the Awards will be presented with commemorative trophies which will be theirs to keep. The Awards Presentation Dinner will be held on Thursday 12 November 2009.

Video profiles of each finalist will be shown at the Awards Dinner.

Follow the Business Awards in the Lincolnshire Echo and the Target Series.

Return this form to register your interest and further information will be sent to you
(Please tick the appropriate boxes, see next page for awards details)

You may enter more than one awards

- Business of the Year Award
- Small Business of the Year Award
- Business Innovation Award
- Supporting the Community Award
- Customer Care Award
- Best Use of IT & Communications Award
- Lincolnshire Bites Back Award

Company Name.....

Contact.....Position.....

Address.....

Postcode.....Tel(inc code).....

Type of Business.....Number of employees.....

Please return to :-

**Emily Riseborough
The Lincolnshire Media Business Awards
Lincolnshire Media
8 Brayford Wharf East
Lincoln
LN5 7AT**

Or Fax this page to 01604 505861
(Please note: The final date for receipt is 7/8/2009)

If you would like further information about the Business Awards, please telephone the organisers on 01604 505480

Lincolnshire Media Business Awards 2009

Business of the Year Award



Accountants & business advisers

This Award will go to the business which has not only increased its own profitability and potential but has also had a positive impact on the economy of the region as a whole. The size and age of such an enterprise will be considered against its financial performance. The judges will also be interested in innovative products, services or processes and expansion into new markets and areas of business activity. Annual turnover must be in excess of £2m in the latest full trading year. Accounts are required.

Customer Care Award



This Award will be made to the company that demonstrates a commitment to continually improving its standards of customer care. The judges will expect to see a clear, well-implemented customer care policy and examples of service exceeding customer expectations. They will also wish to hear how customer care initiatives contribute to the overall success of the business.

Small Business of the Year Award



This Award will go to the business which has increased its profitability and potential over the latest financial year. The size and age of such an enterprise will be considered against its financial performance. The judges will also be interested in innovative products, services or processes and expansion into new markets and areas of business activity. In addition the judges will wish to hear about the 'personality' of the business. Turnover must not exceed £2m in the latest full trading year. Accounts are required but such information will be treated in absolute confidence.

Best Use of IT & Communications Award



This Award will go to the company that has successfully introduced new technology to improve communications with external or internal customers and/or suppliers and, where appropriate, is utilising e-commerce in its trading activities. The judges will be particularly interested in the benefits that the technology has brought to the business, both in terms of opening up new services/markets or the improvement of existing ones.

Business Innovation Award



This Award will go to the company which has introduced a new product or process, invention, idea or design that has made a significant contribution to the business. The judges will be interested in innovation that has improved an existing product or manufacturing process, but equally they would wish to hear about innovation which has led to the development of new products or services. They will also be interested in how innovation is handled within the culture of the company.

Lincolnshire Bites Back Award



This Award has been especially created to recognise companies, of any size, which have demonstrated a determination to bite back against the recession. In keeping with Lincolnshire Media's Bites Back campaign, it is also open to businesses that have helped other organisations or individuals stave off the effects of the economic downturn. Entrants need to demonstrate success in efforts to develop their business or safeguard jobs or promote Lincolnshire as a place to live, work and spend money. The judges will also consider entries from firms who have strengthened the range, reputation and resilience of Lincolnshire's economy.

Supporting the Community Award



This Award is open to companies, organisations and social enterprises and is intended to recognise those contributing to the communities they operate in. Projects or initiatives should have been introduced or have reached a meaningful stage within the past twelve months. Initiatives ranging from funding charitable activities and sporting/recreational facilities through to those intended to support education or learning programmes and those intended to create employment or assist business start-ups will also be considered. But those are by no means a definitive list of examples, and the field is potentially wide open providing that commitment to the community is a key aspect of the entry.

Video Profiles of the Finalists



Companies reaching the finals of the Business Awards will be profiled on video to be shown at the Awards Presentation Dinner in November 2009. Our film crew will be visiting all short-listed local companies to produce a glittering montage of the very best in the region. All finalists will receive a complimentary copy of the video.