OCRI Business Award Finalists Include Leading Media Companies
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Thirty finalists for the 2007 OCRI Awards have been named by OCRI, Ottawa’s lead technology and economic development agency.

Among them, broadcast equipment manufacturers, new media content creators and telecom solution providers.

The OCRI Awards gala, planned for Wednesday, April 4 at the Westin Hotel, is the premier awards event for the region's business, research and academic community and praises the achievements of some of the most successful organizations and individuals in Ottawa.

Six Ottawa businesses and five individuals will be recognized for excellence in the following categories: Technology Company of the Year, Next Generation Executive of the Year, Technology Partnership, Most Promising Start-Up, Product of the Year, Service of the Year, Best News Story, Best Financial Deal, and the OCRI Futures Awards (includes Student Researcher of the Year, Student Entrepreneur of the Year, and High School IT Entrepreneur of the Year).

This year over 70 nominations were received for the 11 categories. All nominations were judged by a committee from the Society of Collaborative Opportunities and Advancement of Professionals (SCOAP).

“Seldom are there opportunities to celebrate the global and local successes of our companies,” said Jeffrey Dale, President and CEO of OCRI. “With the OCRI Awards, we are able to recognize those that demonstrate excellence in such things as innovation, job creation and corporate governance. These teams and individuals are really setting the standard for excellence in Ottawa.”
The 2007 OCRI Awards finalists are:

Technology Company of the Year
N–able Technologies
March Networks Corporation
ZANTAZ

Next Generation Executive of the Year
Brian Hurley – CEO, Liquid Computing
Mike Burns – CCO and CEO, Fuel Industries
Ravi Parmasad – VP, IP Division, Alcatel–Lucent

Technology Partnership
Cognos and RIM
GangaGen Life Sciences and Elanco Animal Health
QNX and Intel Multi–core Software Expedite Program

Most Promising Start-Up
I–Squared Learning
The Utility Company
VoIPshield Systems

Product of the Year
Natural Convergence
Parliant Corporation
Ross Video

Service of the Year
bitHeads Inc.
Macadamian Technologies
Zip.ca

Best News Story of the Year
Andrew Mayeda, The Ottawa Citizen – Mosaid Technologies series, March and Sept., 2006

Best Financial Deal
BelAir Networks
Enablence Technologies Inc.
Variations Biotechnology Inc.

Student Researcher of the Year
Fei Zeng – University of Ottawa
Peter Popplewell – Carleton University
Qi (Jacky) Liu – Carleton University

Student Entrepreneur of the Year
Aroosh R. Elahi – Carleton University
Edward Chouchani – Carleton University
Saeid Nourian – University of Ottawa

OCRI (Ottawa Centre for Research and Innovation), the city's economic development corporation, promotes sustainable economic development to maintain a high quality of life.