

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.

Aomng 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 Jeff Pappone, Ottawa Business Journal – 'Time for an Upgrade' series, Summer 2006 Vito Pilieci, The Ottawa Citizen – 'Video populi booms', Nov. 2, 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.