

BUSINESS Weekly



Carl Swift, managing director of Furniture Cloud



Darren Marsh, managing director of DNS

Awards backers demonstrate their support for our region's economy

Pre-event and venue sponsor



DOCUMENT NETWORK SERVICES Sponsor of the Sales



and Marketing Award Sales and marketing is important for any business looking to diversify and explore new markets. And at this year's Derby Telegraph Business Awards, companies that

the many talented individuals and companies in Derbyshire's business community.

"Sales and marketing are essential in any business and we firmly believe this is an area that deserves to be celebrated."

This is the first time DNS has come on board as a sponsor of the Derby Telegraph Business Awards and Darren said he was looking forward to the awards night.

He said: "We have sponsored this year's Derby Telegraph Business Awards as we strongly support the local business community and believe in celebrating the achievements and successes of the companies that make positive contributions which help to boost local economy."

"This is the first time we have sponsored the awards and we wish all of the entrants the best luck."

According to Darren, his company makes its own contribution to local business community by helping businesses grow through the increased use of digital technology.

He said: "Our team help businesses in Derbyshire to embrace the digital transformation through a full



THE CATEGORIES

COMPANY OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by Derby College
This celebrates businesses that have performed outstandingly throughout the year. The winner will have developed a strong business presence with proof of achievements including strong market share, economic turnaround and innovative approach. Judges will be looking for a business that can be universally admired for its commercial practice and dedication to success.

SME BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by the University of Derby
This award is for companies in the region that normally employ no more than 75 full-time staff and have a proven record of success. This award celebrates companies that are integral to the economy. Judges will consider the prospective growth and development opportunities for the future of each business.

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by Smith Partnership
This award honours the region's top employers. The finalists will have demonstrated strong investment in their employees as well having a reward scheme and other key employee benefits. It's time to reward them, as they do their staff. They will be recognised as one of the best places to work in the area.

START-UP BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by Wheeldon Brothers
This award is for companies that have been in operation for a maximum of three years as of January 1. It recognises one of the region's brightest new businesses and the contribution it will make to the county in the future. Judges will be tasked with analysing business plans, achievements to date and potential for growth within the next few years.

BUSINESS ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by HUUB
This award celebrates the individuals behind some of the most innovative and successful businesses in Derbyshire. Looking at the individual achievements of the director, the results returned by their business and their unique approach to the marketplace they operate in, judges will select finalists that best represent the business spirit of the region.

CREATIVE COMMUNICATIONS AND DIGITAL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by Derby City Council
This award will choose from Derbyshire's wealth of creative businesses to recognise the company that has made major

strides in this important sector. Judges will look at the finalists' dedication to developing something truly creative across a variety of industries.

APPRENTICE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by Impellam
This award recognises the businesses that are providing valuable opportunities for young jobseekers in the area. Over recent years, the younger generation has struggled in the job market, and this category celebrates employers who are supporting the youth of today. The finalists will have gone above and beyond to take on a number of apprentices and provide them with the support and training needed to kick-start their careers.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AWARD
The companies nominated for this award will have demonstrable strengths in service excellence, business growth, innovation, technology, training and personal development. This category covers a wide range of professional services, including legal, financial, retail, hospitality and general services, to name but a few. Judges will be looking for a service company that has achieved and succeeded measurable business goals.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD
Sponsored by Lubrizol
The finalists for this award will have demonstrated considerable dedication to corporate, social and ethical responsibility, providing the community with the many positive outcomes of their commercial activity. Judges will focus on businesses that have contributed substantially to the community through various means including society-led projects, aiding economic regeneration and supporting local suppliers.

NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATION AWARD
Sponsored by Sellick Partnership
This award celebrates the best of the county's many not-for-profit organisations that make a difference to the local community. Recognising the excellent performance of the public sector, not-for-profit and charitable organisations in the area, the award will be judged on the organisations' ability to maintain financial performance, as well as looking at the cultural influence of the business and the potential benefits it brings.

CUSTOMER SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD
Sponsored by WDS
This award recognises those companies that make customer

service a priority in their day-to-day operations. Judges will be looking for a company that can demonstrate how they deliver excellent customer service and can showcase this with testimonials and through their methods.

EXCELLENCE IN MANUFACTURING AWARD
Sponsored by Janine Edwards Wealth Management
This award celebrates the company that has upheld the manufacturing traditions of the local area, while continuing to strengthen the regional economy. All finalists will demonstrate a dedication to manufacturing excellence with emphasis placed on quality, sales performance, sustainability and investment.

SALES AND MARKETING AWARD
Sponsored by DNS
This award recognises companies in the region which have demonstrated sales and marketing excellence over the year. A Judges will examine the innovation and creativity of the business, as well as its ability to find solutions for sales and marketing challenges.

LEADERSHIP TEAM OF THE YEAR
Sponsored by Thomas International
This award recognises the inspiring leaders who head up a successful organisation, while at the same time inspiring and empowering their staff by investing time into their people. Innovation, creativity, and determination are just some of the key traits that the judges will be looking for in these applications.

EDUCATION SECTOR BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT AND EMPLOYABILITY AWARD
Sponsored by Furniture Cloud
This award is for educational bodies, including schools, further education and higher education providers, which constantly strive to make their students highly employable in a competitive employment industry. It aims to recognise those which focus on building and developing skills that are essential to their employability, building links with businesses, and ensuring their students have the best shot at a successful career.

EXCELLENCE IN INNOVATION AWARD
This award celebrates a company that has made strides in their field, creating or introducing something new within the industry, while continuing to strengthen the regional economy. The finalists will be selected and judged on the quality of their products and services, their dedication to sales performance, their commitment to innovation and the sustainability of their business.

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