



Media Release

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Finalists announced for Northern Star Business Awards

The finalists have been announced for the Northern Star Business Awards, Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce's annual accolades for successful businesses across the region.

The awards recognise companies in the North-east for their exceptional accomplishments across a range of fields from energy to innovation, people development to customer service.

The winners are announced at a glittering ceremony at the AECC on September 22, hosted this year by broadcaster and journalist Louise Minchin.

The finalists in the categories are:

- Achievement in International Business
 - Churchill Drilling Tools
 - Downhole Products
 - John Ross Jr (Aberdeen)
- Commitment to Innovative Use of Research & Development
 - Churchill Drilling Tools
 - COREX UK Ltd
 - Quayside Fabrication
- Commitment to People Development
 - Richard Irvin Energy Solutions
 - Scarf
 - Swagelok Scotland
- Excellence in Customer Service
 - Aberdeen International Airport

- Control Valve Solutions
- Simblox Technologies
- Thorpe Molloy Recruitment
- Excellence in Health & Safety
 - Aberdeen International Airport
 - Interwell
 - Sodexo Energy and Resources
- Outstanding Contribution to Society
 - Aberdeen FC Community Trust
 - Aberdeen Performing Arts
 - Score (Europe)
 - The Spotty Bag Shop
- Outstanding Contribution to the Energy Sector
 - FIS Chemicals
 - Optimus Seventh Generation
 - READ Cased Hole
- Overall Business of the Year
 - Balmoral Group Holdings
 - FIS Chemicals
 - Hudson Catering
- Rising Star
 - Hutcheon Mearns – Julita Stachowiak
 - Mackie's of Scotland – Stuart Common
 - Sureclean – Mathew Pirie
- Student Placement
 - Aberdeenshire Council
 - Johnston Carmichael
 - Marathon Oil
- The Green Award
 - Deeside Activity Park

- Scarf
- VG Energy

Due to the high interest in this year's awards, two additional categories, Best Campaign and Business Diversity, are being judged separately later this month.

The winner of the final award – for lifetime achievement - is announced on the night.

Last year, Balmoral's chairman and managing director James Milne CBE was handed this accolade for his outstanding contribution to the region.

Chief executive at the Chamber Russell Borthwick said: "The Northern Star Business Awards are a highpoint for the Chamber, giving North-east businesses from every sector the opportunity to showcase their achievements.

"All the award categories attract interest from across every sector of the business community and competition for a finalist spot is always tough.

"More than ever, it is vital at this time that we celebrate success and demonstrate to the world that Aberdeen city and shire remain firmly open for business.

"It really is time to shine for North-east businesses."

Over £6,500 was raised for local charities through the generosity of the hundreds of guests who attended last year's event and the Chamber has chosen the five organisations that will benefit from the 2016 awards as Absafe, Children 1st, North East Sensory Service, the Royal National Lifeboat Institution and Scarf.

The Northern Star Business Awards take place on Thursday, September 22, 2016 at the Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre, in the Bridge of Don in Aberdeen. For information regarding attendance or sponsorship, visit www.northernstarawards.co.uk, call 01224 343901 or follow #TimeToShine on Twitter.

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Notes to editor

- The 13th Northern Star Business Awards are being held on Thursday September 22, 2016 at the Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre, in the Bridge of Don.
- Please find attached a Northern Star Business Awards logo.
- The Northern Star Business Awards is the Chamber's flagship event which celebrates the wide range of innovation and expertise in North-east businesses across all sectors.
- Aberdeen & Grampian Chamber of Commerce (AGCC) is North-east Scotland's leading private sector, member-focused, business organisation. The Chamber represents more than 1,300

businesses with around 130,000 employees in the private sector covering all industry sectors, ranging in size from sole traders to multi-national corporations.

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