

Business Weekly

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FAMILY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD
Sponsored by Alerter Group
THE annual Derby Telegraph Business Awards has always been a fantastic opportunity to showcase the breadth of business talent living in the region, and throughout the years the awards ceremony has seen some phenomenal businesses grace its stage.

The awards, now in their fifth year are open to any business in and around Derby, big or small, that believes their contribution deserves to be recognised, and ultimately rewarded.

Entries for the 15 categories this year started being accepted in January and the closing date is March 2.

Judges will then round these down to a group of finalists, with the winners announced at a glittering awards ceremony at Derby College's Roundhouse on Wednesday, June 13.

Each award is judged by the category sponsor. The Derby Telegraph Business Awards simply could not exist without the backing of its sponsors.

Among the business sponsoring the awards this year is Alerter Group plc.

The family-run company has

"As a second-generation family business ourselves, it is always nice to be able to support and promote other local family businesses.."

CHRIS HASELDINE

developed products in-house and grown to become the national market leader in providing radio-based emergency communication systems.

This includes fire alarm systems for deaf and hard of hearing people, emergency refuge communication systems for physically disabled people and emergency communication and warning systems for personnel in high-risk environments.

Alerter is the driving force behind this year's Family Business of the Year Award – a new category that celebrates a business in any industry that has demonstrated sustained success across a broad range of measures, while also keeping family values at its core.

Chris Haseldine, director at Alerter Group, believes that because his firm is a family-run concern, it was an appropriate category for his company to sponsor.

He said: "As a second-generation family business ourselves, it is always nice to be able to support and promote other local family businesses. While we already know some in the area, we are looking forward to finding out about many more during the judging process and to understand how being a family business contributes to their particular success."

With its roots firmly planted in Derby, the Alerter Group is a solid part of the region's business community.

Chris said: "Although our customers are UK-wide, with both



Chris Haseldine, director at Alerter Group.



David Bowler, director at Sibbalds

Awards that celebrate family values and professional services



Entrants gather for last year's awards.



The 2017 winners of the services Award were Pattonair.

our head office and operations centre based in Derby, the majority of our staff live in and around the Derby area.

"We also try where possible – and it is commercially sensible to do so – to use other local businesses in our supply chain."

As a multi-million-pound company, Alerter is continually expanding and, with another successful year behind it, Chris highlighted what is on the cards for the business.

He said: "After yet another record-breaking year in 2017, the key focus for Alerter Group plc for 2018 is to continue to grow the business in a sustainable way while maintaining our high standards of customer service and quality in all areas of the business."

strengths in service excellence, business growth, innovation, technology, training and personal development.

The category covers a wide range of 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.

The company that will be judging the award for this year's Derby Telegraph Business Awards certainly knows a thing or two about what it takes to be successful in this arena.

Chartered accountants and chartered tax advisors Sibbalds is sponsoring this category - and will be judging the entries, rounding them down to three finalists who will go forward to the awards ceremony, which takes place on Wednesday, June 13.

Working predominantly with owner-managed and family businesses in Derby and the surrounding area, Sibbalds helps clients achieve more – more sales, more profit, more time for themselves and more tax savings.

As a company that specialises in providing traditional compliance

"We understand the sector well and it's a vital part of the local and national economy."

DAVID BOWLER

such as accounts, audit and taxation, through to management information and advisory services, backing the Services Award was a perfect fit for the firm.

David Bowler, director at Sibbalds, said: "We chose to sponsor the Services Award because, being a service business ourselves, we understand the sector well and it's a vital part of the local and national economy."

According to David, Sibbalds plays a key part in the region's economy, community and initiatives. He said: "We're active members of Marketing Derby and have strong connections with many business leaders and professionals within the city. We've been based in Derby for all of our 90-year history, and we're looking forward to being here for at least another 90!"

With the services industry ever-changing and hugely competitive, Sibbalds is a company focused on the future.

Outlining the firm's aspirations for 2018, David said: "Our focus for 2018 is to help our clients and potential clients to comply with new legislation 'Making Tax Digital for VAT' which comes into effect in April 2019, which will change the way that businesses maintain their core accounting records. This presents a unique opportunity to not just comply with this new legislation, but to open the door to an endless list of software applications that will transform the way businesses operate, and their results, forever."

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SERVICES AWARD
Sponsored by Sibbalds
OVER the years, Derby has become renowned for the quality of its business which operate in the professional services sector.

The expertise of these companies is called upon by clients not just in this region but all over the country.

The Services Award aims to recognise the best of the best. The companies nominated for this award will have demonstrable

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Pre-event and venue sponsor



Awards categories and how to apply

TO enter the Derby Telegraph Business Awards 2018, visit the website derbytelegraphbusinessawards.co.uk and go to the 'Enter Now' page. Each business is permitted to enter a maximum of three award categories. The categories are as follows.

COMPANY OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Derby College

For 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 the 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

Open to companies that normally employ no more than 75 full-time staff and have a proven track record of success. It recognises businesses that have shown marked success over the past year, and is a celebration of the many small companies which, when put together, form an integral part of our economy. Judges will consider the prospective growth and development opportunities of each entrant.

START-UP BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Wheeldon Brothers

This award is open to companies in the region that have been in operation for a maximum of three years as of January 1, 2018. This coveted award 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 Janine Edwards Wealth Management

This award celebrates the entrepreneurs behind some of the most innovative and successful businesses in Derbyshire. It looks at the individual achievements of entrepreneurs, the results returned by their businesses and their unique approach to the marketplace. Judges will select finalists that best represent the entrepreneurial spirit of the region.

SERVICES AWARD

Sponsored by Sibbalds Chartered Accountants

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 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.

EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AWARD

Sponsored by Lubrizon

Paying tribute to the company that has excelled in the field of science and technology, this award recognises advancement and innovation. Continuing a strong scientific and technological ethos, 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.

EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Smith Partnership

This award honours the region's top employers. These companies 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! Businesses from all sectors are eligible to apply.



CREATIVE INDUSTRIES BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by HUUB

Judges will look at the finalists' dedication to developing something truly creative across a variety of industries. Entrants must also demonstrate a considered dedication to financial achievement and future business success.

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. Finalists will demonstrate a dedication to manufacturing excellence with emphasis placed on quality, sales performance, sustainability and investment.

APPRENTICE EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Project Better Energy

This award recognises the businesses that are providing valuable opportunities for young jobseekers in the area. Over recent years, the younger generation have struggled in the job market, and this category celebrates the employers who are supporting the youth of today. The finalists in this category 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.

SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

Sponsored by Derby City Council

Sustainable businesses are so important in today's environment and this category rewards those who are making strides to become more sustainable year on year. Entrants will be asked to describe their policies around sustainability and CSR, as well as demonstrate how they handle certain productions.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE COMMUNITY AWARD

Sponsored by Intu Derby

Finalists for this award will have demonstrated considerable dedication to corporate, social and ethical responsibility. Companies will be asked to provide evidence of their work having a positive impact on the community. Judges will focus on businesses that have contributed through various means, including society-led projects, aiding economic regeneration and supporting local suppliers.

FAMILY BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Alerter Group

This award is for established family businesses across all industry sectors that can demonstrate sustained success across a broad range of measures, whilst ensuring all family values are followed. The judges will also be looking at the aspirations of your business to demonstrate how both current and future family generations will be involved in the growth of the business.

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.

LEADERSHIP TEAM OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Thomas International

This award is open to a leadership team that has demonstrated remarkable leadership skills during their management. This award will recognise 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.