

28 July 2011

Three Irish Businesses Named Amongst European Business Awards Ruban D'honneurs

Three companies in Ireland have been awarded a 'Ruban d'Honneur' prize in the penultimate stage of the European Business Awards, sponsored by HSBC. The successful companies include Aerogen, Realex Payments and Unicarepharmacy.

100 of Europe's most dynamic businesses have survived intensive and rigorous judging to make it onto the finalists list. With victory in their sights they now have a chance to be crowned as one of ten overall category winners in the Awards.

Alan Duffy, Head of HSBC Corporate Banking Ireland, commented; "I'm absolutely delighted Aerogen, Realex Payments and Unicarepharmacy have been recognised with a Ruban D'Honneur. Aeogen are at the forefront of the growth of the medical devices sector in Ireland while Realex are a fine example of the importance of entrepreneurial spirit to our economic recovery. Having been acknowledged here in Ireland as a leading employer it's also great to now see this recognition extended to Europe for Unicarepharmacy. I wish all of them the best for the next stage of the competition and congratulate them on getting this far."

Adrian Tripp, Chief Executive of the European Business Awards, said: "Receiving a Ruban d'Honneur is a major success. It promotes the fact that you're up there with the best businesses across the European community. This year has been tough on the judging panel as we're seeing businesses emerge from economic difficulties and come out fighting and delivering some great entries. The mood is confident, ebullient and highly competitive."

Ruban d'Honneur recipients are preparing to present face to face before a second judging panel in London in September. The overall winners in each of the categories will be announced at the Awards ceremony in Barcelona on 22nd November 2011.

The Ruban d'Honneur is awarded to ten successful entrants in each of the award categories: The UKTI Award for Innovation, The HSBC International Growth Strategy of the Year Award, The Award for Environmental and Corporate Sustainability, The Award for Customer Focus, The Employer of the Year Award, The RSM International Entrepreneur of the Year Award, The HSBC Import/Export Award, The Infosys Business of the Year Award (T/O €0-25m), The Infosys Business of the Year Award (T/O €26-150m), The Infosys Business of the Year Award (T/O €150m +).

The Ruban d'Honneur List can be found at: <http://www.businessawardseurope.com/ruban-dhonneur-categories/2011>

Ends

EDITORS NOTES

About the European Business Awards 2011:

The European Business Awards sponsored by HSBC recognises and rewards excellence, best practice and innovation in companies across the European Union. The competition is free to enter and open to organisations of all sizes and from any industry sector.

The European Business Awards programme serves three purposes for the European business community:

- It provides examples for the business community to aspire to
- It celebrates and endorses individual's and organisation's success
- It provides case studies and content for learning from these exceptional organizations

An innovative, strong and thriving business community makes a successful and prosperous Europe.

The European Business Awards categories are:

- The HSBC International Growth Strategy of the Year
- The Award for Environmental and Corporate Responsibility
- The Award for Customer Focus
- The Employer of the Year Award
- The RSM International Entrepreneur of the Year Award
- The UKTI Award for Innovation
- The Import/Export Award
- The Infosys Business of the Year Award (T/O €0-25m)
- The Infosys Business of the Year Award (T/O €26-150m)
- The Infosys Business of the Year Award (T/O €150m +)