



PRESS RELEASE

NATIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY CELEBRATES BEST OF PAYROLL GIVING IN THE UK

The National Payroll Giving Awards, showcasing the best Payroll Giving schemes from UK employers, took place last night. Winners were presented with their awards by the Right Honourable Jane Kennedy MP, Financial Secretary to the Treasury at a prestigious event hosted by the Institute of Fundraising at HM Treasury.

A range of employers, sector and media representatives as well as Government officials attended the event. It was introduced and compered by broadcaster and 'money saving expert' Martin Lewis.

Award winners include: The Royal Mail, Haymarket Media Group, Ecclesiastical Insurance Group, Marshalls plc, Home Retail Group and Pertemps People Development.

First launched in 1987, Payroll Giving enables employees to donate to any UK charity straight from their gross salary, giving immediate tax relief. Latest figures show that this year Payroll Giving has distributed almost £90 million to good causes.

The National Payroll Giving Awards have been introduced in the 20th year of Payroll Giving to recognise and reward employers with successful schemes and demonstrate best practice in their promotion to employees. Entries were restricted to those employers that have received 2007 Bronze, Silver or Gold Quality Mark Awards.

Tina Steele, Payroll Giving Project Manager at the Institute of Fundraising:

“Congratulations to all our winners at the first ever National Payroll Giving Awards. Each employer has demonstrated that enthusiasm, energy and commitment encourages more people to become regular donors through their payroll.”

For more information about the Award Categories, winners and case studies please visit:
www.payrollgivingcentre.org.uk.

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Photographs from the awards ceremony are available on request from the Institute of Fundraising press office.

MEDIA QUERIES

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NOTES TO EDITORS

1. The **Payroll Giving Quality Mark** is funded by HM Government, administered and promoted by the Institute of Fundraising.

The **Payroll Giving Quality Mark** recognises and rewards organisations of all sizes for making Payroll Giving available to their staff. The Quality Mark comprises a certificate and logo, as well as Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards. Awards are available for organisations that achieve minimum staff participation rates and employer support as outlined below:

- Bronze Award - 1% employee participation in Payroll Giving
- Silver Award - 5% employee participation in Payroll Giving
- Gold Award - 10% employee participation in Payroll Giving and the employer must either pay the administration charge, match donations or have carried out an active promotion of Payroll Giving during the past 12 months.

2. The **Institute of Fundraising** (www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk) represents fundraisers and fundraising throughout the UK and is committed to the highest standards in fundraising management and practice. The Institute of Fundraising is the professional body for fundraising and is the largest individual representative body in the voluntary sector with 4500 Individual members and 250 Organisational members. Organisational and Individual members of the Institute agree to abide by the standards set out in the Codes as a condition of membership.