

News Release

Re:locate Awards 2014/15 celebrate immigration's importance to the global mobility agenda

Friday 15 May 2015 – The winners of this year's *Re:locate* Awards, which celebrate the contribution of companies and individuals across the relocation sector, were announced and presented with their trophies at a champagne reception and gala dinner held yesterday at London's prestigious Institute of Directors. Among the awards presented was **Immigration Team of the Year**, which recognises providers of specialist immigration support to companies that are relocating employees and their families.

The *Re:locate* Awards are regarded as the ultimate recognition of excellence in all aspects of relocation, both in the UK and internationally. More than 200 guests from across the relocation spectrum – including HR professionals and suppliers – networked the night away as they awaited the announcement of the winners. They were entertained and informed by this year's speaker, Laughology's Stephanie Davies, whose refreshingly interactive keynote was warmly received. Master of ceremonies Dave Keeling, also of Laughology, ensured that the presentation of the trophies went with a swing.

The winners

Between them, this year's 12 *Re:locate* Awards recognised individuals, teams, policy and innovation, with a choice of categories for HR and service providers. Entries were subjected to rigorous scrutiny by a team of independent judges.

The winners, which included companies and individuals from the UK and overseas, reflected the many different types of organisation involved in

relocation, all of which contribute a wealth of knowledge and expertise. Familiar names like InterContinental Hotels Group, PwC and Crown World Mobility were side by side with previously less-familiar ones.

Introduced for the 2013/14 awards, the **Immigration Team of the Year** category attracted a large number of entries again this year, reflecting the importance of immigration to the global mobility agenda. Employers are increasingly aware of the challenges they face in dealing with immigration and visa issues, and of the risks involved if they fail to comply with regulations.

A range of organisations, including specialist immigration firms, solicitors, relocation management teams with an immigration section, HR teams working with external suppliers, relocation management companies, destination service providers, and in-house corporate immigration departments, were eligible to enter.

The judges congratulated winner Dearson Winyard International on “a clear, strong entry, based on 20 years of service, multiple accreditations, client engagement, and a core business philosophy of ‘utmost good faith’,” with particularly good client feedback and powerful evidence of innovation.

Summing up, one judge said, “In short, compelling evidence of a leading UK immigration firm which has produced a strong entry across all judging criteria.”

Darren Faife, of Dearson Winyard International said, "We are delighted and humbled to receive this award. We are a progressive company, passionate about the business and our staff genuinely care about the people they help move. From a global mobility destination service provider perspective, it shows that immigration is an integral part of the process."

Other shortlisted companies were Formula Corporate Solutions India, Intermark Relocation, KEY Relocations, Pro-Link GLOBAL, and Sterling Relocation.

Immigration firms also won three other categories illustrating the important role that immigration plays in global mobility. Pro-Link GLOBAL won the Best HR & Supplier Strategy or Team Award and Smith Stone Walters were awarded the winner's accolade for the Excellence in Employee & Family Support Award. In addition, Pearl Travel Tech scooped the Technological Innovation in Relocation Award for their pre-trip assessment tool for managing immigration and tax compliance.

Fiona Murchie, Managing Editor of *Re:locate* Global said,

“As immigration continues to dominate the political agenda, not just in the UK and Europe but worldwide, the hot topic of immigration moves higher up the business agenda.

It is imperative for business growth and economic success that companies are supported in bringing into a country the expert talent they need. The fact that we have three immigration firms winning different categories this year shows that immigration is a burning issue for corporate clients globally.”

For a comprehensive list of *Re:locate* Awards winners, [click here](#).

The Summer 2015 issue of *Re:locate* magazine, to be published in June, will feature full details of all the winners, with case studies.

The *Re:locate* Awards 2014/15 were sponsored by BridgeStreet Global Hospitality, Cheval Residences, Graebel Relocation, Skyline Worldwide and Smith Stone Walters. The Association of Relocation Professionals (ARP), the European Relocation Association (EuRA), FOCUS, and the Relocation Users Group (RUG) provided professional endorsements.

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Notes for Editors

About the Re:locate Awards

Introduced in 2007 to reward good practice and celebrate the contribution of relocation to business success, the *Re:locate* Awards recognise teams and individuals, as well as organisations. They attract global attention and entries from the UK and overseas. Previous winners range from blue-chip companies to start-ups.

For further information, visit relocatemagazine.com/about-the-awards

About Re:locate Global

Re:locate Global recently celebrated ten years as the leading source of information, support and events for the global mobility sector. Its website, relocateglobal.com, is the gateway to a range of influential multichannel, multimedia products and services. Updated daily and reaching 145 countries, the website includes regional and subject-specific digital magazines. It is the online home of a fast-growing community of HR, global managers, relocation professionals and experts dedicated to global mobility.

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