

Awards Process How to enter: Please fill in application form below

Please complete in BLOCK CAPITALS

COMPANIES/BUSINESSES CAN NOMINATE THEIR OWN BUSINESS

Name of Nominator:

Name of Business / Company you would like to nominate:

Contact name: Position

Business Address:

Telephone No: Email Address:

Brief description of your business/organisation - ie products and services

Please indicate (by ticking box) the award category you wish to enter - (you may enter up to 4 categories)

- Best new business start up (under 3 years)
- Best customer service award independent retailer - mystery shopped
- Best retail premises (interior and exterior) - mystery shopped
- Best customer excellence in professional service - mystery shopped
- Special community group award
- Business growth award
- Best marketing initiative
- Best training initiative
- Best business practice
- Best bar / pub award - mystery shopped
- Best hair salon award - mystery shopped
- Dundalk's best high growth SME
- Environment Excellence Award

Nominations can be made by:

- Completing nomination forms and returning to the Chamber before the deadline.
- Nominations can come from individuals or from firms themselves or members of the public.
- By completing the nomination form on www.dundalkchamber.ie web site
- Chamber may make a nomination if it recognises a suitable nominee

Terms and Conditions: The awards are open to businesses that are based in Louth. Businesses may enter as many of the award categories as they wish. All entries must be made using the official application form. Once received, no entries will be returned. Judges decision is final and the organisers will not be obliged to justify their decisions or enter into any correspondence. The organisers reserve the right not to make awards in any category if the standard of entry does not warrant it. All information submitted will be treated as confidential and will not be disclosed without the permission of the applicant.

Remember: Closing date is

17th August 2011

There will be four finalist in each category on the night and an overall winner announced on the night in each category.

Please return your entries by post to:
**Dundalk Chamber of Commerce,
Hagan House,
The Ramparts, Dundalk.**

Tel: 042 9336343 Fax 042 9332085
email brenda@dundalk.ie or visit
www.dundalk.ie

THE ARGUS



Louth Business Awards 2011



Foreword

Dundalk Chamber of Commerce is delighted to launch the Louth Business Awards for 2011. The aim of these awards is to recognize the achievements of companies and individuals in promoting excellent services and products in a top class manner.

Given the challenging times we are in we are encouraging companies to rally and recognize the organizations that are performing well.

On behalf of Dundalk Chamber I would like to encourage you to enter your business for these awards and give your company the opportunity to see its profile rise and be seen as a model of success, tough times or not. Success breeds success, so win or loose I'd believe your participation will have positive impact for the morale of all employees.



• Bill Tosh, Executive Director
Dundalk Chamber

Please look at the categories, you may well qualify for more than one, so be sure to select that in which you have best fit. The awards evening provides a good social outing for all contestants.

When will the Awards take place?

The Louth Business Awards will take place at a Black Tie Gala Dinner **on Saturday the 15th October 2011 in the Fairways Hotel.**

This amazing night is now one of the highlights in the social calendar in Dundalk. Celebrating local business success stories, guests will mix with local dignitaries and fellow business people. There will also be plenty of glitz and glamour on the night in what is always a truly memorable occasion.

Why Enter these Awards

- Each winner will receive a specially commissioned trophy for display in their premises.
- Recognition through photographs and articles in local media and on our website www.dundalk.ie
- Visit us on facebook www.facebook.com/dundalkchamber

- There will be extensive coverage of the awards in the run up to the event and on the night itself.
- Opportunity to showcase your company to your peers.
- The winners have the opportunity to use this award on their own promotional material.

Important Dates

- Wednesday 11th May- Launch of Awards
- Wednesday 17th August – Closing date for entries
- Monday 5th September- Short listed companies announced- 4 in each category.
- Saturday 15th October – Winners announced at the Gala Dinner

List of categories

1. Best New Business Start up: This category is open to all new business established since Jan 2008. Have you developed a good idea and turned it into a viable business venture. Sponsored by Three, Ireland's largest high speed network.



2. Best Customer Service Award Independent Retailer: sponsored by The Argus. This award is designed to celebrate customer excellence in customer service in the retail sector. In order for your business to succeed in this category you must highlight what your business offers to customers that separates you from the competition. Sponsored by The Argus. It will be Mystery Shopped.



3. Best Retail premises for both exterior and interior visual impact: Open to all retailers this award will recognise excellence in both exterior and interior retail premises in terms of visual impact for the customer. Sponsored by Dedco it will be Mystery Shopped.

4. Best Customer Service in Professional Services Sector: This award is open to all companies who provide a professional service i.e. Solicitors, Accountants, Architects, Insurance Agents and Mortgage Brokers. This category is sponsored by The Fairways Hotel and will be mystery shopped.



5. Special Community Group: This is open to an organization in the voluntary sector who provides services, funds, resources, knowledge or skills to sustain and develop an important community service. This community support award is sponsored by Dundalk Credit Union, Market St, Dundalk.



6. Business Growth Award: For a company which has grown considerably in the past 5 years or has great success with a particular product. Sponsored by Vhi Healthcare.



7. Best Marketing Initiative: For a company who has a great marketing campaign which has blown the competition away. Sponsored by Value Centre Cash & Carry, Dundalk.



8. Best Training Initiative: Open to all companies who have a brilliant training initiative for all staff which has a marked business improvement for your company or organization. Sponsored by FAS.



9. Best Business Practice Award: This award recognises an overall excellence in business practice. The winner in this category has established an exceptional relationship with their clients and has demonstrated increased growth as a result of excellent business performance. Sponsored by Peninsula Business Services.



10. Best Pub / Bar Award: This award recognises excellence in Pub / Bar licensed trade and will look for outlets that offer excellence in quality, service and value to customers. The award will be mystery shopped and is sponsored by Diageo (Great Northern Brewery).



11. Best Hair Salon Award: This award recognizes excellent customer service in this sector. Does your salon offer an outstanding service to clients? This is sponsored by L'Oreal Professional Products Division and will be Mystery shopped.



12. Dundalk's Best High Growth SME: This is open to all small businesses who employ 15 staff or less and who have demonstrated strategic growth, innovation and entrepreneurship in this sector. Sponsored by Louth County Enterprise Board.



13. Environment Excellence Award: This is open to all businesses who have implemented an environment initiative, product or service which has contributed to minimizing the effect of business on the environment. Sponsored by Tesco.

