

Commerce Decisions AWARD® software supports the judging process for major awards

Customer Profiles

CIPS is an international organisation serving the purchasing and supply profession. It exists to promote and develop high standards of professional skill, ability and integrity among all those engaged in purchasing and supply chain management. CIPS assists individuals, organisations and the profession as a whole. The Supply Management magazine and website are published by CIPS and contain news and views from the wider procurement and supply chain profession.

Annually, the CIPS Supply Management Awards celebrate excellence in purchasing and supply management. In 2010, there were a record number of entries – 222, up from 197 in 2009. More than 1,200 people attended the Awards evening and dinner.

Partnerships Bulletin is a subscription-based magazine and website providing in-depth updates on partnership working between the public and private sector, including the Private Finance Initiative (PFI), Public Private Partnership (PPP) and newer models, such as asset-backed regeneration vehicles.

Following two years as the Public Private Finance Awards media partner, in 2011 the event is now run by Partnerships Bulletin. Now in its 13th year, the awards are a significant part of the partnerships calendar, seeking to recognise industry for excellence in this sector.

The Cyber Security Challenge UK Ltd is a not for profit organisation aligned with the National Security Programme. It is an ongoing initiative that aims to bring more talented people into the Cyber Security Profession. The

managed by sponsors from public and private sector organisations who care about the future of the profession.

The Challenge is a series of national online games and competitions that will test the cyber security abilities of individuals and teams from every walk of life. It is designed to excite and inspire anyone considering a career in the cyber security industry.

The 2011 competition's structure has been developed by the experts from the Challenge sponsorship organisations. QinetiQ is the competition writer for the Network Defence Category, with two levels of entry – Business Network & Home Network.

Role and Value of Commerce Decisions and AWARD®

AWARD® is the tool chosen for the awards to evaluate submissions in a robust, controlled and objective manner; without bias towards the competitors. AWARD® ensures the integrity of the judging process. Each



member of the judging panels has an individual log-in to the AWARD® software. Each judge then independently assesses each submission. All of the judge's scores are registered in AWARD® in real-time, and are. To date AWARD® has been used to judge over 700 submissions, with over 2,000 documents registered. During any judging process there are many key challenges such as;

- Managing competition entries
- Providing a clear and transparent audit trail
- Working to tight timescales
- Managing a number of documents and data that need to be accessed easily and rapidly
- Geographically dispersed judging team



These challenges are all successfully managed in AWARD®. AWARD® is a secure web-based tool which can be accessed over the internet. This allows for a geographically dispersed judging team to access AWARD® at any time, and from wherever they are located.

“AWARD® is being used through the competition streams of the Network Defence Category, giving us a full audit trail of each candidate’s experience, skills and the abilities demonstrated. This is informing the crucial decision of who the winners will be”

Charles Hodgson – QinetiQ, Cyber Security Challenge Network Defence Director

AWARD’s collaborative space for document management allows multiple reviewers to access a central secure repository. This facility also allows document linking and searching that increases both the efficiency and quality of the judging process. The automatic audit trail captures the judges’ scores together with their rationale giving the reasons for their decisions. All the scoring and data can be reported on for real-time analysis and results.

“Using AWARD® for our judging process has helped streamline the process and gave us the confidence we were getting the right results. Our judges were unanimous in praising AWARD® for making their job so much quicker and easier and we are looking forward to using it again next year.”

**Amanda Nicholls
Publisher, Partnerships Bulletin**



“The process is entirely electronic making it as efficient for the judges and as equitable for the candidate organisations as possible.”

**David Noble
CEO, CIPS**