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Winners celebrated in the East Midlands Apprenticeship Awards 2009

Apprentices and employers from the East Midlands have seen their achievements recognised in the East Midlands Apprenticeship Awards 2009. At a ceremony at the East Midlands Conference Centre in Nottingham apprentices and employers from all over the region received awards and certificates.

The ceremony, hosted by TV presenter Diane Louise Jordan and sponsored by EM+, was organised by the Learning and Skills Council and the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS).

The winners are:

Micro Employer of the Year, sponsored by Business Link East Midlands:
Scott Bailye Hairdressing, of Earl Shilton, Leicestershire

Small Employer of the Year, sponsored by Business Link East Midlands:
Ashfield Electrical Rewinds & Installations, of Eakring, Nottinghamshire
Ashfield Electrical Rewinds & Installations' training provider is West Nottinghamshire College

Medium Employer of the Year, sponsored by Business Link East Midlands:
Slack and Parr, of Kegworth, Leicestershire

Large Employer of the Year, sponsored by Business Link East Midlands:
City of Lincoln Council, Lincoln, Lincolnshire

Macro Employer of the Year, sponsored by Business Link East Midlands:

Rolls-Royce, Derby, Derbyshire

Young Apprentice of the Year, sponsored by the East Midlands Development Agency:

Mark Jefferson, 15, of Cottingham, Northamptonshire

Mark works at Rockingham Cars and his training provider is Rutland County Council

Entry to Employment Learner of the Year, sponsored by West Nottinghamshire College:

James Lebreton, 19, of Market Rasen, Lincolnshire

James was employed at Gainsborough Old Hall and his training provider is CG Partnership

Apprentice of the Year, sponsored by TNG:

Heloise Diouf, 20, of Chesterfield, Derbyshire

Heloise is employed by Ashgate Croft Special School and her training provider is Age Concern Training

Advanced Apprentice of the Year, sponsored by the Derbyshire Network:

Paul Boulton, 24, of Alfreton, Derbyshire

Paul is employed by Barnado's and his training provider is Positive Outcomes

Karen Woodward, the NAS Regional Director – Apprenticeships East Midlands, said at the ceremony: "This is a celebration of the wonderful benefits Apprenticeships bring to people and those organisations which employ and train them. The people and the employers we acknowledge here this evening are the very best in the region, and have achieved much that deserves recognition."

Karen added: "One of the ways we are helping to increase the number of Apprenticeships is through the Vacancy Matching Service, which brings employers and candidates together. In the East Midlands there are nearly 7,000 candidates registered so far since the service was launch in January, and more than 2,000 registered employers."

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For further information about any of the winners, or a list of people and organisations Highly Commended, contact Andy Gilgrist at House PR on 01536 772256 or 07989 563517 or email: andy@housepr.co.uk

Notes to Editors: -

Learning and Skills Council

- The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. We are responsible for ensuring the availability of high-quality education and training for everyone. We have a single goal: to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to world class standards. Our vision is that young people and adults in England have knowledge and skills matching the best in the world and are part of a truly competitive workforce. We work nationally, regionally and locally to deliver this ambition on behalf of learners and employers. Visit www.lsc.gov.uk/inourhands