

LEADING THE WAY IN CPD; THIS YEAR'S CATEGORY WINNERS

The three category winners in the CPD Company of the Year Awards 2008 were: Small-Sized Company, Clarke & Associates; Large-Sized Company, Pfizer; and, in the new Not-For-Profit Organisation Category, Waterford County Council.

Small-sized CPD Company of the Year

Kildare-based Clarke & Associates desperately required engineers to deliver a large volume of work and recruiting was very slow at the time. With less than 20 building services engineers graduating from DIT Bolton Street each year and being located in Co. Kildare, they were immediately at a disadvantage. By recruiting non-building services engineers and tailoring the applied training, Clarke & Associates successfully delivered their workload and maximised the potential turnover and profit margin for the company, demonstrating the transferable skills set of engineers. Commenting on Clarke & Associates award, Engineers Ireland Director General and Chartered Engineer, John Power said: "Professional development has become the keystone for companies to stay ahead of their competitors and to be at the forefront of their customers minds."

Chris Clarke, Managing Director of Clarke & Associates said: "Our company has always valued the importance of knowledgeable staff and upskilling them. The continuously evolving skills and motivation of our team are qualities which play a critical element in our continued success."

Large-sized CPD Company of the Year

The judges of this year's competition were impressed by Pfizer Ireland Pharmaceutical's ability to complete the implementation of an advanced Learning Management System to support the learning and development of employees. This represented a considerable investment and supports world class standards in Learning Operations. The system, together with Engineers Ireland's Continuing Professional Development philosophy, places employees at the centre of the learning process, by empowering them to take a substantial degree of ownership of their own learning and development. Commenting on their success, Engineers Ireland Director General and Chartered Engineer, John Power said: "Pfizer Ireland Pharmaceuticals is a prime example of a how a company faces the challenge of meeting the demand for young engineers in Ireland." Eoin Galvin, HR L&D Partner of Pfizer Ireland Pharmaceuticals said: "CPD plays a pivotal role in our ongoing ability to compete in the international market place in this difficult economic climate."

Public sector CPD organisation of the year

Waterford County Council was recognised as the best local authority for continuing professional development of its engineering staff. The competition judges were impressed with the implementation of 'Joulesave' software by Waterford County Council on the project 'The Integration of the Measurement of Energy Usage into Road Design'. Joulesave enables engineers to evaluate the energy implications of their road designs in terms of construction and vehicles energy so that the optimum economic design in terms of overall energy use can be selected. By proper analysis at design stage, engineers could contribute



Left to right; John Power, Chartered Engineer, Director General Engineers Ireland; Chris Clarke, CEng MIEI, Managing Director of Clarke & Associates; and Minister for Trade and Commerce, John McGuinness.



Left to right; John Power Chartered Engineer Director General Engineers Ireland; Eoin Galvin, HR L&D Partner of Pfizer Ireland Pharmaceuticals; and Minister for Trade and Commerce John McGuinness.



Left to right: John Power, Chartered Engineer, Director General Engineers Ireland; Frank Curran, Chartered Engineer MIEI, Waterford County Council; Catherine Horan, Waterford County Council; and Minister for Trade and Commerce, John McGuinness.

significantly to an overall reduction in national energy consumption. Commenting on Waterford County Council's award, Engineers Ireland Director General and Chartered Engineer, John Power said: "This award acknowledges, and highlights, the need for public bodies to invest in their employees. Professional development ensures that Waterford County Council are using the latest knowledge available for their employees, which in turn benefits the citizens of Waterford." Frank Curran, Director of Services said: "CPD has played a pivotal role in providing the service that Waterford County expects and deserves." The Engineers Ireland Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Company of the Year Award, now in its 5th year, is aimed at recognising organisations that have invested in their engineers and technicians through CPD activities which prompted an increase in business performance. The Engineers Ireland CPD Accredited Employer scheme is co-funded by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment under the National Training Fund and plays an important role in the Government's objective to build a knowledge economy. The 320 organisations involved in the Engineers Ireland CPD Accredited Employer scheme employ in excess of 30,000 engineers and technician. Φ

Karen Brennan, Senior L&D specialist for Engineering with Boston Scientific receives the Outstanding CPD Company 1998-2008 Award from John Power (left) Director General Engineers Ireland and Minister for Trade and Commerce, John McGuinness.



Boston Scientific Outstanding CPD Company 1998-2008

Boston Scientific (Galway) Ltd, has been recognised at the Engineers Ireland Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Company of the Year ceremony with a special Outstanding CPD Company 1998 – 2008 Award.

In both 2007 and 2005, Boston Scientific was the notable winner of the Engineers Ireland CPD Company of the Year award.

This year's Award is in special recognition of the outstanding contribution Boston Scientific made, over a 10 year period, to best practices in Continuing Professional Development (CPD). The company has been a strong supporter of CPD Accreditation for engineers and technicians.

Commenting on Boston Scientific's award, Engineers Ireland Director General and Chartered Engineer, John Power said: "Boston Scientific is a credit to the professional development world. They have been at the forefront of CPD for the last ten years and prove that investment in employees is a strategy for future success. This award is testament to the dedication and regard that they have for their employees."

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