

Suppliers recognised at Agency awards

The Highways Agency has saluted the suppliers making a difference on national roads – and calls for more as it moves towards being a government-owned company

Small and medium-sized enterprises, innovation, and customer and worker care all emerged as winners as the Highways Agency announced the results of its Supplier Recognition Scheme.

The awards for 2014, which were announced in Birmingham in January, saw small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) make their mark by picking up a quarter of the honours.

The Agency was already celebrating a record number of entries across the seven categories – with 118 flooding in from 50 companies.

The annual recognition scheme highlights the vital contribution made by the Agency's suppliers who help it operate, maintain and improve England's network of motorways and A roads. In fact more than 90 per cent of the work delivered on Agency roads is down to the supply chain.

Graham Dalton, chief executive of the Highways Agency, said: ***"This year our recognition scheme received more than double the number of entries compared to last year – that is simply fantastic.***

"It's also a strong indication of the steps our suppliers have made in bringing innovation into the workplace."

Three SMEs won awards: The Carnell Group and Simulation Systems in the 'Managing down cost/improving value' category, while Recycling Lives scooped a 'Promoting diversity and inclusion' award jointly with EM Highway Services.

Simulation Systems had impressed judges by coming up with the first infra-red CCTV system, tried and tested for smart motorways, that can see in the dark. This helps negate the need for carriageways to be lit at night for the Agency to see where incidents have happened. Meanwhile Carnell's adoption of an innovative technology to clean filter drain material on-site – meaning it does not need to be transported miles away to specialist cleaners – was more environmentally friendly and reduced costs by half, said judges. Another SME, Wavetronix, was highly commended as part of a joint nomination.

Judges applauded EM for a range of diversity and inclusion work, including a

partnership with Recycling Lives which led to two homeless people securing employment placements. But there was still room for the first tier suppliers as Costain won three awards – including one in 'Customer experience' for its work on the M1 junction 28-31 smart motorway scheme. The company had implemented measures including an ANPR system to give drivers live journey time information as they travel through roadworks.

Interserve Construction won the 'Delivering sustainable value and solutions' category for its beyond 2020 sustainability framework; while Carillion impressed judges for its customer service solutions on the A23 Handcross to Warninglid scheme. There the company not only made public liaison available 24/7 for any complaints or queries, it also visited schools for educational talks, raised funds for local charities and donated materials to local projects.

Chairman of the judging panel at the Agency, Simon Diggle, said: ***"I'd like to congratulate all the winners and those highly commended for their outstanding efforts. For those who were not successful this time around, please continue to push forward and come back this summer because we are always looking for innovations and better value."***

"As we move towards a government-owned company in 2015 – with £24 billion worth of improvements pledged for the next five years – it is more important than ever that our supply chain helps us become even more innovative and efficient."

The revised 'Safety, health and wellbeing' category proved an overwhelming success as three suppliers picked up awards and five others were highly commended for their work. Skanska took the 'Road worker safety' aspect of the award, for its efforts to improve safety collaboratively including the construction of a simulated motorway for emergency services and workers as part of incident management exercises. But it was A-One+ Integrated Highway Services which won the new 'Occupational health and wellbeing' aspect for the personnel services it provides to its road workers. The company was also recognised for its health awareness programmes. ☺

Graham Dalton
addressing the event

BUILDING AND SUSTAINING CAPABILITY

– suppliers that have developed their employees' skills and capabilities through delivery of Highways Agency contracts.

Awarded to: **Costain**

Highly commended:
Carillion Civil Engineering



HA chairman Colin Matthews with Natalie Peacock, Richard Stuart (Costain)

The Highways Agency Supplier Recognition Scheme winners and highly commended

PROMOTING DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

– suppliers that have created opportunities to bring people into the workplace, developed skills and created an environment where differences are valued and utilised.

Awarded to:
EM Highway Services and Recycling Lives

Highly commended:
BAM Morgan Sindall JV



HA Chairman with Vicki Worthington (EM Highway Services), Mark Simpson (Recycling Lives) and Andy Burns (EM Highway Services)

SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELLBEING

– suppliers that show industry leading commitment to improving organisational, workforce and road user health and safety.

Awarded to: **A-One+ Integrated Highway Services (Occupational health and wellbeing aspect); Costain (Road users aspect); Skanska Construction UK (Road workers aspect)**

Highly commended: **Road workers aspect - Carnell Group; Hanson Asphalt & Contracting; Colas; Road users aspect - Atkins; EM Highway Services.**

CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE

– suppliers that have demonstrated industry leading commitment to customer service.

Awarded to: **Carillion Civil Engineering; Costain**

Highly commended:
Mouchel (designer) and **Carillion** (delivery partner)

MANAGING DOWN COST/IMPROVING VALUE

– suppliers that have demonstrated significant achievement by delivering Highways Agency contracts in smarter, more efficient ways.

Awarded to:
Carnell Group; WSP; Simulation Systems

Highly commended:
Carillion Civil Engineering; Skanska, Balfour Beatty, Atkins with Simulation Systems and Wavetronix



Carnell Group: Aidan Clarke, Liz Bell, David Brewer (Highways Agency Director), Darren Nelson (Carnell)

DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE VALUE AND SOLUTIONS

– suppliers that have integrated environmental, social, economic and management aspects of sustainable development into the delivery of Highways Agency contracts.

Awarded to:
Interserve Construction

Highly commended:
Costain Group; Sir Robert McAlpine and AW Jenkinson

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

– suppliers that demonstrate the Highways Agency's strategic agenda, values and principles through supply chains.

Awarded to:
The Collaborative Procurement Working Group (CPWG) – Carillion, BAM/Morgan Sindall, Costain, Balfour Beatty, Asset International, Polypipe and Saint Gobain

Highly commended:
Connect Plus M25; Norbert Dentressangle Logistics UK; Skanska UK



HA chairman with Simulation Systems: Dr Adriana Gallardo, Louis Thompson, John McGinty (Skanska Balfour Beatty Joint Venture)