



The 8th Annual **International Business Awards** 2011 Hosted at Abu Dhabi, UAE

VIP Gala Awards Ceremony at the 8th Annual International Business Awards 2011

-the world's most prominent Business awards culminates in Abu Dhabi -

Abu Dhabi, UAE 11th October 2011 – The 8th edition of the International Business Awards 2011, sponsored by Dana Gas and Netezza by IBM, with a view to recognising the achievements of the world's business, ended yesterday at the prestigious Emirates Palace Hotel in Abu Dhabi. The event was attended by H.E. Sheikha Lubna bint Khalid Al Qasimi, UAE Minister of Foreign Trade, The Ambassador of the Philippines to UAE, The Ambassador of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to the UAE, local, regional and international delegates as well as members of the press. This is the first time for the International Business Awards to be hosted in the Middle East, attracting as many as 3,000 nominations from more than 40 nations. The competition was open to individuals and organizations worldwide; public and private, for-profit and non-profit as well as large and small enterprises. The entries were assessed by a selective panel of judges who witnessed an increased level of participation in this year's competition.

Addressing the guests at the gala award ceremony, H.E. Sheikha Lubna, the patron of the awards, welcomed the delegates to the UAE and emphasized on the significance of the internationally recognised business accolades while stressing on the importance of encouraging UAE companies to participate in the international market arena.

In this year's competition, the UAE walked away with over 24 awards in various categories. Competition also included first-time winners Bahrain, Peru, Saudi Arabia, and Slovakia. Winning 42 Stevie Awards this year, organizations and individuals from the United States made the best showing while South Korea came in second place with 29 awards.

Nicknamed the Stevies from the Greek word "crowned", the International Business Awards were created to honour and generate public recognition of the achievements and positive contributions of organizations and business people worldwide. Beginning with The American Business Awards in 2002, the mission was to raise the profile of exemplary organizations and individuals among the press, the business community, and the general public. In short order the Stevie has become one of the world's most coveted business awards.



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"We are pleased with the results and the outcome of the 8th edition of the IBA and it is such a privilege to witness an increase number of entries and we hope that we will see the companies from the UAE returning again to the participate in next year's event" said Michael Gallagher, president of The Stevie Awards.

Business professionals from around the world participated in preliminary judging in May-July. Their average scores determined the entries that were eligible to be considered in final judging, which was performed earlier this month by the members of 10 specialized committees. In total, 200 executives from around the world participated in the judging process.

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Stevie Awards are conferred in four programs: [The American Business Awards](#), [The International Business Awards](#), [the Stevie Awards for Women in Business](#), and [the Stevie Awards for Sales & Customer Service](#).

Honoring organizations of all types and sizes and the people behind them, the Stevies recognize outstanding performances in the workplace worldwide. Learn more about the Stevie Awards at <http://www.stevieawards.com/>, and follow the Stevie Awards on Twitter [@TheStevieAwards](#).

Location hosting patron for The 2011 International Business Awards is the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the United Arab Emirates. Premier sponsors include IBM Netezza and Smart Reader® Worldwide. The Korea Business Communicators Association is the national sponsor for South Korea. Localization sponsor of the 2011 Stevie Awards is SDL. Location hosting supporters of the 2011 IBAs include Abu Dhabi Department of Economic Development, Abu Dhabi Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority, Dana Gas, Forbes Middle East, the Gemological Institute of America and The International Business Times.