

**Smart Recruitment Announces 'Keane' Winner
of The 'Office Employee of the Year Awards 2006'.**

Over 50 entries were received for the joint Smart Recruitment and 2CR FM sponsored 'Office Employee of the Year Awards 2006', with the winner announced at the recent luncheon held at the delightful Henley's Restaurant at the Montague Hotel in Bournemouth.

30 candidates were short-listed from the outstanding 50 entries, with 3 finalists announced at the lunch.

Helen Stacey, Director of Smart Recruitment commented, "The judging panel had a really tough time this year as the standard of entries was exceptional. We were looking for people who went over and above the call of duty making themselves invaluable to their employers in the process. A 'can-do' attitude, using initiative and being able to 'step-up' the pace when needed were qualities we were keen to identify in our worthy winner."

After a sumptuous lunch the hotly contested winner was announced as Josi Keane, HR and Operations Manager of Lewis Innovative Investments. Josi was given sole responsibility for a recent office move to the company's existing premises. Josi gave up a lot of personal time at weekends to make sure this massive undertaking ran smoothly and as little time as possible was lost to employees in operational hours, imperative for the commercial well-being of the company.

Karen Rickman, Director of Lewis Innovative Investments comments, "When we offered the role of HR and Operations Manager to Josi we weren't sure we could afford her. Nearly a year later we know we can not afford to be without her."

Helen continues. "As the largest, and I believe the most professional and personable recruitment agency in Dorset, we continue to recognise the vital role of employees in the office environment, hence the recent re-brand of our commercial division into Smart Office supplying both temporary and permanent staff across the region. We are delighted with Josi's success with these awards highlighting the value clearly given by our regional employers to their dedicated employees. "

Josie walked away with a year's free hairdressing at the prestigious HNB salon group, a beautiful bouquet created by 'Simiones' and the coveted Employee of the Year trophy.

The two runners up, Denise Swadell, a Ward Clerk from Poole Hospital NHS Trust and the 3rd finalist, Samantha Freeman, a Matrimonial Legal Assistant from Frettons Solicitors in Christchurch, each received a bottle of champagne and flowers as well as a Smart Recruitment goodie bag. As recognition of all the 30 successful finalists, the ladies received a beautiful bouquet with the male finalists each receiving a bottle of wine.

Smart Group Recruitment Solutions continue to go from strength to strength with the management team recently announced as finalists of the celebrated Dorset Business Awards in the Best Management Team category. The results will be announced at the December awards ceremony.

Smart Recruitment has enjoyed continued success through 2006 with their trademark proactive and dynamic approach seeing a turnover in excess of £12 million. For further information on any of the services provided by Smart Recruitment call 08450 634635 or visit www.smartgroup.co.uk to find your local branch in Poole, Bournemouth, Dorchester, Christchurch or Yeovil.

~ENDS~



Caption: - Boasting her Employee of the Year trophy proudly, Josie Keane of 'Lewis Innovative Investments' celebrates her success.



Celebrating her success with 30 finalists, Josi Keane (centre) with co-sponsors 'Ritchie' from 2CR FM (centre left) and Helen Stacey of Smart Recruitment (centre right)

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