



£50,000 e-champion sought

Mike O'Brien MP, Minister of State for Energy and E-Commerce has launched the seventh annual DTI/InterForum E-Commerce Awards to recognise and reward innovation in the application of information and communication technologies to improve the business performance of small and medium-sized enterprises in the UK.

The national title of e-Champion 2005 and a £50,000 cash prize will be awarded at a gala dinner to be held at Grosvenor House in London on 6 October.

The Awards are a joint initiative between the Department of Trade and Industry and not-for-profit campaign group InterForum and are supported by BT, The Royal Bank of Scotland and *British Industry's* sister magazine *The Manufacturer*.

The Awards are open to any UK business with up to 250 employees and are run on a regional and national level. This year, new categories have been introduced to reflect the changing face of e-business: best use of broadband, best use of teleworking, best use of mobile and wireless technology, best sales and marketing online, best customer care online, and the most integrated business.

For more information on dates, times, judging guidelines and entry criteria, visit the awards website at www.ecommerce-awards.co.uk. Companies can also be nominated online.