

**AWARDS:** DTI launches seventh annual SME scheme

## e-champion sought

Mike O'Brien MP, Minister of State for Energy and E-Commerce has launched the seventh annual Department of Trade and Industry/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 in October.

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: best use of broadband, best use of teleworking, best use of mobile and wireless technology, best sales & marketing online, best customer care online, and the most integrated business. Dates, times, judging guidelines and entry criteria can be found on [www.ecommerce-awards.co.uk](http://www.ecommerce-awards.co.uk).