



HEMEL HEMPSTEAD COMPANIES IN RUNNING FOR TOP BUSINESS AWARDS

Two Hemel Hempstead businesses, both members of the Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry will line up alongside some of the country's most successful companies as they compete for leading UK industry awards.

Gillissa Limited, based in Mark Road, has picked up the East of England's award for Innovation through Technology, sponsored by Dell.

SJD Accountancy, on Hillfield Road, collected the regional award for Excellence in Customer Service, sponsored by AXA PPP healthcare.

The companies are now finalists in their categories for the UK title in the Chamber Awards hosted by the British Chambers of Commerce, which were created to celebrate the UK's most successful businesses.

John Longworth, Director General of the British Chambers of Commerce, said: "The health of the UK's economy relies upon the confidence of our businesses to grow, invest and create jobs. That's why the British Chambers of Commerce has been working hard to ensure government makes good on its promises to encourage enterprise, and do everything in its power to help businesses grow.

"All the good things we want to see in society depend on business and wealth creation. These awards provide a snapshot of some of the most impressive companies from across the country. Many of these business owners are working day in day out to build upon the companies they have built from scratch, creating jobs in local communities, and contributing to the economic recovery we so desperately need. We're delighted to be able to celebrate the success of these companies through the Chamber Awards."

Hertschamber Chief Executive, Tim Hutchings, said, "This is great news about two terrific local businesses, I am delighted for them both. They are typical of numerous other local businesses in the area".

E-Commerce internet marketing business Gillissa Limited, helps its clients increase brand awareness using its Feed Manager service which reaches all major product listing websites.

The self-developed platform has seen the company gain 100 new customers a year with an overall target to achieve 350 active customers by July 2014.

Innovation has been the making of SJD Accountancy, run by award-winning entrepreneur Simon Dolan. What started as a one man band 19 years ago, the firm now has more than 10,000 clients and an annual turnover of £11m.

Having won regional awards, the companies are now in the running for the national title in its category, as well as the chance to collect the **Award for Outstanding Business Achievement** – with a top prize of **£25,000** and runner up prizes of **£15,000** and **£10,000**.

The national winners will be announced at a ceremony at London's Grand Connaught Rooms on November 24th 2011.

See the full list of winners and find out more about the awards at www.chamberawards.co.uk/2011