

Local Businesses Win Big!

The Business & Technology Centre (**btc**) were proud to sponsor this year's East of England Awards, held on 13th October 2011 at Tewin Bury Farm.

The **btc** sponsored the Business Innovation Award and also helped to judge the finalists.

In a twist, this year saw the awards ceremony also incorporate a Business SME Expo which drew crowds throughout the day to meet with local businesses and also attend a variety of seminars and networking sessions. This was followed by the Grand Final where supporting organisations such as the FSB, Lloyds TSB and the **btc** presented the awards to the finalist.

In the Business Innovation category the **btc** were proud to announce Lights Out Computer Services as the runner up. The winner of this, and another award, was Simply Amazing Training.

Peter Cabon, Education and Advisor Director at Wenta and judge said, "*The whole day was a great success and brought together a host of organisations to support local businesses. The **btc** were proud to sponsor the awards and congratulate both Lights Out Computer Services and Simply Amazing, both well deserved winners*".

The **btc** wishes a big well done to all of the winners, runners up and finalists who spent a great deal of time entering the awards and look forward to next year's awards.

Please see details of the [btc premises](#) to find out more about the services on offer.

Notes for Editor

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The Business & Technology Centre (**btc**) is owned by Stevenage Borough Council and managed by Wenta Innovation, a division of [Wenta](#) one of the leading Enterprise Agencies in the East of England.

The **btc** was re-launched in 2009 following a multi million pound development to transform the centre into the primary Innovation and Technology Centre in Hertfordshire, aimed at supporting knowledge based businesses and promoting innovation within the local community. This development is part of the Council's vision to create quality business space and support in the heart of the town's business community and it is part of a £7M investment funded jointly by the Council and EEDA, the Regional Development Agency and the Government Growth Area Fund.

The **btc** is the longest serving Enterprise Hub within the region promoting networking, the sharing of knowledge and cross trading. Working to develop innovation and inspire enterprise, the **btc** also works with local schools, colleges, regional agencies, other enterprise hubs and universities to offer educational visits, work experience, mentoring and training.

Wenta is a not for profit organisation independently funded through the ownership and management of its two business centres in Watford and Potters Bar and management of the **btc** in Stevenage. These [business centres](#) comprise workshops and offices with a combined space of over 100,000 square feet, let on monthly licence terms to small businesses. Wenta also attract funding from a number of public sector organisations including Business Link East, Job Centre Plus, local authorities in Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire and EEDA.

In addition to this Wenta offers business incubation centre ([My Incubator](#)), business advice, guidance, training, graduate and undergraduate work placements and a comprehensive enterprise awareness programme to schools, colleges, and universities.