

NEWS RELEASE

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New Awards to Celebrate Successful Knowledge Transfer Collaborations

The London Knowledge Transfer Awards, to be launched at University College London (UCL) on Thursday 4 September, is a vibrant new award scheme designed to recognise the success of knowledge transfer collaborations within London. The Awards will raise awareness of the benefits of using the knowledge base as a resource, and access to it, by seeking out best practice within the City.

The UK is one of the best countries in the world for research and scientific discovery and London has a world-leading knowledge base, comprising education establishments and research organisations, together with the structure to transfer that knowledge. Organised by the London Development Agency (LDA), the London Knowledge Transfer Awards will showcase the very best collaborations between London based businesses and the knowledge base.

Emma Shelley, Senior Development Manager at the LDA, said: "Innovation is fundamental to higher productivity and business growth. Education establishments and research organisations are key partners to promote it. We are looking for individuals and organisations that excel at transferring ideas from the knowledge base into practical use within the commercial world. Our message is simple: if you are engaged in knowledge transfer within London, then you should get involved with the London Knowledge Transfer Awards."

The inaugural 2008 London Knowledge Transfer Awards will comprise six individual Categories and one overall top achievement award; The Knowledge Transfer Collaboration of 2008. The individual categories are: The Knowledge Transfer Champion; Knowledge Base Collaboration Award; Collaborative Innovation Excellence; Environmental Sciences Award; Innovative Student Placement Award; and Commercial Deal of the Year.

Tim Barnes, Executive Director at UCL Advances, said: "In supporting the LDA's new Knowledge Transfer Awards, UCL is proud to make clear our dedication to knowledge transfer. The

opportunities for UCL and the LDA to work together in this area are significant for the benefit of both UCL and the businesses of London.”

The awards are open to all businesses and knowledge base organisations located within London, large or small. There is a simple entry process, which features an online facility on the Awards Website. Those selected as finalists, after the closing date of 31 October 2008, will be visited by a judging team. The winners of each category will be announced at the Awards Ceremony, to be hosted by Jason Bradbury co-host of Channel Five’s Gadget Show, on Friday 5 December 2008 at the Royal Garden Hotel Kensington.

Full details of the categories and entry process can be found at the Awards Website www.londonktawards.co.uk.

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Issued on behalf of the London Knowledge Transfer Awards by Ixion Journeyman. For further information contact Simon Lamb on 020 7580 8834 or 07881 911120.

Note to Editors:

- The Awards Launch will be a joint event with UCL (University College London); at 6.00pm on Thursday 4th September. The launch will explain the background to the awards, the structure and timeframe. There will be opportunity for photographs and interviews - please contact Simon Lamb on 07881 911120 if you wish to attend. Guests have been invited to arrive for 6.00pm for refreshments prior to the short presentation; the evening will conclude with canapés and an opportunity to ask questions. UCL has very kindly agreed to host the event in the Front Engineering Building, Malet Place (Off Torrington Place), London WC1E 6BT.
- Categories are sponsored by:
 - The Knowledge Transfer Champion – *The Institute of Knowledge Transfer and The New Engineering Foundation*
 - Knowledge Base Collaboration Award – *Knowledge Connect*
 - Collaborative Innovation Excellence – *John Laing plc and Thames Valley University*
 - Environmental Sciences Award – *National Environment Research Council*
 - Entrepreneurial Spirit Award - *Knowledge East and West Focus*
 - Commercial Deal of the Year – *Grant Thornton*
- The London Development Agency aims to improve the quality of life for all Londoners – working to create jobs, develop skills and promote economic growth.