

Call Connection Has UK's 'Best Entrepreneurial Team' Call Transfer Service Wins Information Technologists' Company £5,000 Award

London, 14 May 2007: Call Connection, a call handling service for the financial services industry has the best entrepreneurial team in the UK. The company's management team led by Graeme Kalbraier received the Information Technologists' Company (ITC) Best Entrepreneurial Team (BET) Award on Friday 11 May in a ceremony that also celebrated the ITC's 15th anniversary of its livery status. Call Connection's prize includes £5,000 for the charity of its choice.

Erudine, whose team created the Erudine Behaviour Engine to solve the problems of disparate legacy IT systems, received a special commendation from the award's judging panel, headed by Sir George Cox, chairman of the Design Council. The panel examined factors such as company growth-rate, team dynamics, venture funding, chosen markets, products/services provided and success to date.

Call Connection's senior management team, consisting of Kalbraier and directors John Dagger, Judy Jones, Neil Hames, Paul Clement, Sandy Dunn, Simon Marriage and IT director Steven Collis, created the company's revolutionary software and established the business to market it. The software acts as an automated call-handling service which transfers callers to an appropriate insurance company when they enter some basic information.

With two sites in Ipswich, Suffolk, Call Connection has in excess of 300 agents who handle more than 50,000 calls per week. The company's meteoric growth has seen it expand from a start-up three years ago to a major corporation with an annual turnover of £25million with a profit before tax of £2.5million and 182 employees.

Graeme Kalbraier says: "The judging and competition for this award has been rigorous at every level, from the quality of the other entrants to the prestige of the judging panel and the Information Technologists' Company. For Call Connection's management team to win is testament to the dedication and pride each member takes in creating a first-class venture."

"The Call Connection team is highly experienced and has a long entrepreneurial legacy of building successful, sustainable businesses," says chairman of the Information Technologists' Company BET Awards sub-committee John Cavill. "The team members have combined this expertise to build a solid business which impressed the judging panel of professional investors and business leaders. I wish the company all the future success it deserves."

Other BET Award competition finalists selected from more than 80 entrants were teams from recruitment software provider Aurora, e-learning solutions provider Creating Careers, web-based address and postcode finder Postcode Anywhere and Erudine.