

Portia Among the Best and Most Powerful in the British Computer Society IT Awards 2008

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Portia today announced that it has been selected as a finalist for the 2008 British Computer Society (BCS) IT Awards. Its Equalitec project has been shortlisted for the 'Organisational Excellence' category in the Women in IT' subcategory because of the innovative approach taken to promote greater engagement and involvement of women in the IT industry.

The BCS Awards in association with Intellect showcase the most innovative and professional IT solutions and individuals in conjunction with a wide range of consumer and business applications.

Elizabeth Pollitzer, Director of Portia said: "It's a fantastic achievement for our organisation to be recognised as amongst the very best in their field. Our nomination is a testimony to the power of small organisations to bring about change and the extensive expertise of gender diversity and technology-based careers that Portia's team was able to offer its partner organisations, particularly to employers' human resources and diversity teams, to help them access and learn from recruitment and diversity best practice and get the most out of the resources directed towards attracting and maintaining talent."

David Clarke, BCS Chief Executive says: "In the current economic situation it is rewarding to see that IT is continuing to lead through innovation and deliver real business benefits. These projects reflect the fact that technology is an integral and expected part of everyday life and is at the heart of literally every business - even farming.

John Higgins, Director General at Intellect says: "Intellect is delighted to be involved with the BCS IT Industry Awards again. Information communication technology improves organisations' competitiveness and productivity, and helps them meet the needs of their customers more effectively. These awards recognize those technology suppliers, individuals and organisations which do this best.

The quality of entries is once again very high and I do not envy the judges their task of identifying the winners - it's going to be a difficult job."

The Portia team was subjected to detailed questioning by a panel of judges, who will select a winner and two medalists from the 10 organisations competing in this category, who include: Google, Microsoft, IBM, Deloitte, Lloyds TSB, Accenture, Goldman Sachs, BT and Thoughtworks. The results will be announced at a prestigious black-tie awards ceremony on Thursday 4th December 2008.

Founded in 1997, Portia is a non-for-profit organisation dedicated to furthering IT and advancement of women in this and related sectors.

Visit the Portia website, www.portiaweb.org.uk for further information its activities, and Equalitec website, www.equalitec.org.uk for further information about activities relating to IT industry.

Contact information
press@equalitec.org.uk

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Registered in England & Wales no. 4210693.

Registered office: Price Firman Accountants, Prince Consort House, Albert Embankment, London SE17TJ

Correspondence: 14 King Street, London, EC2V 8EA