

THE ACS PACESETTERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 2015



The second ACS Pacesetters Achievement Awards Lunch was held at Royal Windsor Racecourse on Wednesday, 20th May, before a formidable gathering of member companies, end-users and, significantly, another very impressive group of "Security Officers of Distinction".

Throughout the lunch, the various courses were interspersed with presentations, initially to all The ACS Pacesetter Members in attendance, followed by those to our Sponsors and concluded with a total of 14 individual awards to Security Officers, selected by the sponsors and based on nominations from their individual clients together with an endorsement by their own parent company.

The full list of Individual Winners and the Contract Companies they represent appear on page 7. For too long the Industry has, perhaps, failed to give recognition, particularly in the smaller companies, to individuals who have either given meritorious service to the industry over a long period or, alternatively, have averted some major crisis on their client's premises. The individual testimonies, which were read out at the lunch, bear witness to the growing number of excellent officers which we now have in the industry.

The keynote address was given by Mr Brian Sims, the current editor of Risk UK and a leading advocate for the continuous improvement of standards within the contract security industry. Brian has made a very significant contribution

to the ongoing debate on moving the industry forward from the introduction of regulation in 2006, and it is pioneers like him that, we believe, will eventually succeed in moving the industry to a better place.

We also want to pay tribute to our sponsors, without whom this event would not have been possible. A big thank you, therefore, to Sutton Specialist Risks; The Security Watchdog (Part of Capita Plc); Professional Security Magazine; Cobia UK; Eurotech Monitoring Services and Trust ID.

Another important part of the day for us is the contribution which we are able to make to our chosen charity, Hounds for Heroes and, on this occasion, we raised £1765. We heard again from Allen Parton, founder of Hounds for Heroes, who gave a memorable talk of his life before taking on his first assistance dog, Endal, and how the partnership transformed him and gave him back his independence. It was a moving and, at times, humorous speech.

Finally, thanks go to Hindhead Golf Club, Ward Security and Royal Windsor Racecourse who, in addition to ourselves, donated the raffle prizes; also to Wilson James and TC Security Services who sponsored the lunch and pre-lunch drinks.

In conclusion, it is worth reminding ourselves about the purpose of the ACS Pacesetters. These are the best companies in the Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS) as judged by the results of the annual inspection carried out by one of the 5 UKAS bodies, appointed by the SIA to carry out the task. In other words, as a client, it surely makes sense to use The Pacesetters 'Hall of Fame' when drawing up your tender list. Certainly, those clients who were at The Awards Lunch are most unlikely to disagree.

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THE HALL OF FAME



ACS Pacesetters – Leading the Industry from the Front

There is growing evidence that more and more end-users are turning to the ACS Pacesetters 'Hall of Fame' when they select their potential tender list.

This should surprise nobody as, to join the Pacesetters, your company has to be in the top 15 percent SIA's annual Approved Contractor Scheme (ACS) inspection.

Membership of the manned guarding sections of the BSIA or IPSA, whilst in itself commendable, is no guarantee of quality service on the ground.

Little wonder, therefore, that more clients now seem to be playing safe by choosing a supplier from amongst the Pacesetters as opposed to what else is on offer.



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ACS PACESETTERS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS LUNCH



A SECURITY OFFICER OF DISTINCTION



A SECURITY OFFICER OF DISTINCTION

THE INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

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FM Contract Watch introduced 'A Security Officer of Distinction' award at the ACS Achievement Awards Luncheon in 2014 and, due to the large number of worthy nominations this year, we increased the number of awards to 14. These Officers were nominated by the clients for whom they work, endorsed by the contract company which employs them and ultimately selected by the main sponsors.

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The Individual Awards were presented by Mr Brian Sims

It was an extremely difficult task in selecting the winners from such a high class field and we offer our congratulations to all of the Security Officers who were nominated by their clients for this prestigious award.

ACS PACESETTERS CHOSEN CHARITY



Hounds for Heroes is the long held dream of one man, Gulf War Veteran Allen Parton, whose tale of partnership with a Labrador, Endal, has become the subject of documentaries, a book and soon to be a Hollywood film. Having lived through the transformations that an assistance dog can bring to an individual and a family, Allen is keen for others to experience the same and have their lives changed. Hounds for Heroes provide specially trained assistance dogs to injured and disabled men and women of the UK Armed Forces and Emergency Services. The charity is structured around the clients and their future dogs. Each being trained to meet the specific needs of the client which means working with them on an ongoing basis during the latter stages of advanced training.

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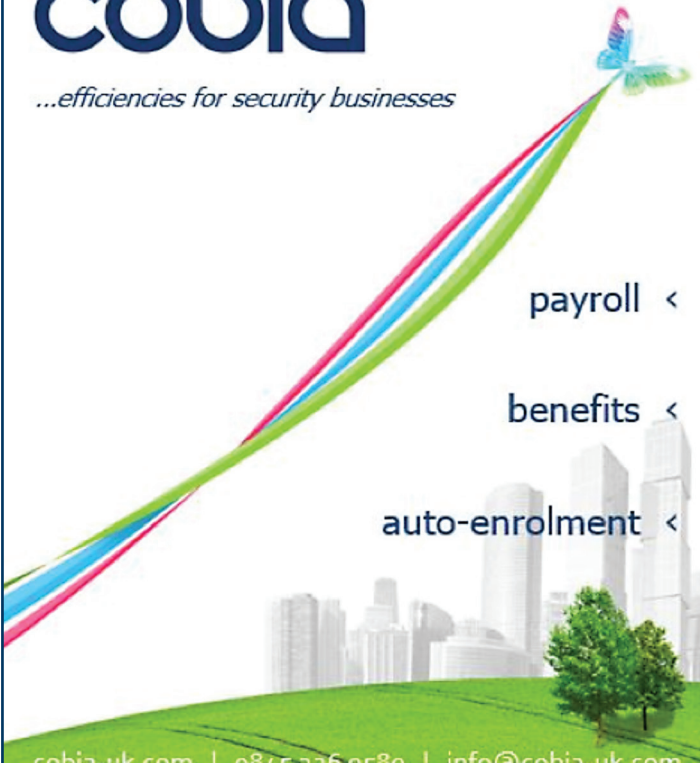
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