



Award winners revealed...

The judging panel

John Anderson,
director of the Hunter Centre for
Entrepreneurship at Strathclyde
Business School

Adrian Gillespie,
managing director of Operations
(Growth Companies, Innovation &
Infrastructure) at Scottish Enterprise

Fiona Godsman,
chief executive,
Scottish Institute of Enterprise,

Craig Dickson,
director, Corporate & Commercial
Banking Glasgow, The Royal Bank of
Scotland

chairman: former Business Insider
editor **Alasdair Northrop**



Made in Scotland Award

Winner: Hydro Group

"This is an excellent Scottish headquartered company which sets a great example for others to follow," was how one of the judges summed up the achievements of **Hydro Group** plc. Formed in 1982 by a group of innovative and experienced engineers, Aberdeen-headquartered Hydro Group is a major national and international supplier of harsh environment

engineered products to the oil and gas, marine renewable energy, oceanographic, nuclear, aquaculture and defence industries.

With an extensive product range and providing complete design and manufacturing services at its base in Aberdeen, Hydro Group takes raw materials and manufactures products from start to finish in Scotland.

Manufacturer of the Year

Winner: Hydro Group

Runners-up: Bonar Yarns and Fabrics and Fathom Systems

Hydro Bond Engineering and **Hydro Cable Systems** are seen as market leaders in creating innovative and bespoke engineered cable and connector assembly solutions for subsea applications. The judges said Aberdeen-based Hydro won for a number of reasons including its focus

on developing its own people and skills. Dundee-based **Bonar Yarns** and Fabrics Ltd was described as "a fabulous business in a traditional industry which had reinvented itself". Aberdeen-based **Fathoms Systems**, specialist in technology for commercial diving, was praised for its culture of innovation.

Best New Product

Winner: Ekko Waste Solutions Ltd

Runners-up: Bubabloon and Swiipi

Ayr-based **Ekko Waste Solutions Ltd** has made a revolutionary glass recycling machine.

The Ekko Glass Crusher crushes empty glass bottles into safe and easily recycled glass 'super cullets'. The judges said the benefits of the product were "extremely clear".

Edinburgh-based glass **Bubabloon** has made a textile baby toy that's transforms balloon play. The judges said it had "great potential".

Swiipi of Glasgow, which makes integrated CRM systems for retailers, was described by the judges as "a great company doing a fantastic job".

Young Innovator of the Year

Winner: Scott Kennedy, Fergus Moore & Rebecca Richardson of Revive Eco
Runners-up: Ruairidh Wynne-McHardy of RollRun and Kate Caven of Kids Creative

Scott Kennedy and his two co-founders have developed **Revive Eco**, which recycles used coffee grounds to create a range of different innovative green products. Ruairidh Wynne-McHardy created **RollRun** – an automated solution which emails lawyers when their term appears on the court lists. Edinburgh Napier University graduate Kate Caven, of **Kids Creative**, has designed a special table for children called the Creative Tree.

Innovator of the Year

Winner: Emblation
Runners-up: Agenor Technology and Sykes

Alloa-headquartered **Emblation** designs, develops and manufactures microwave based medical devices was the winner. Edinburgh-based cloud based software solution provider **Agenor Technology** was seen by the judges as a good example of a fintech start-up while Edinburgh-based **Sykes**, which has invented a bespoke IT financial service, was also praised for its creativity.

Food and Drink Company of the Year

Winner: WEST Brewery
Runners up: Pickering's Gin and The Big Cheese Making Kit Ltd

WEST Brewery of Glasgow was described as a stand out entry by the judges. It recently opened a new state-of-the-art brewery on its site at the Templeton Building beside Glasgow Green, which multiplies its production capacity ten-fold. Edinburgh-based **Pickering's Gin**, the first exclusive gin distillery in the capital for over 150 years and Tranent-based **The Big Cheese Making Kit** also impressed the judges.

Life Sciences Company of the Year

Winner: Toshiba Medical Visualization Systems Ltd
Runners-up: Arrayjet Ltd and Cohesion Medical Ltd

Toshiba Medical of Edinburgh creates software for use in medical scanners. In 2015 it developed and delivered to markets across the world a number of innovative solutions. Roslin-based biological inkjet printing specialist **Arrayjet** was seen as "a solid business" by the judges who particularly liked its new Iris Optical Quality Control System. Glasgow-based **Cohesion Medical** was the other runner-up.

Exporter of the Year

Winner: The Scottish Salmon Company
Runners-up: Traceall Global and Hydro Group

The **Scottish Salmon Company** is an amalgamation of smaller salmon farms operating in remote locations across the West coast of Scotland and the Hebrides. Its exports have doubled between 2010 and 2015. **Hydro Group** was praised by judges for its brave and bold decision to move from energy into other sectors. Glasgow-based **Traceall Global** was seen as providing a good example to other exporters.

Engineering Company of the Year

Winner: Fathom Systems

Fathom Systems was founded in Stonehaven in 2005 primarily serving the global commercial diving industry. It is currently at the forefront of new build Saturation Dive System projects worldwide and is firmly established as a top industry supplier of fully compliant high-end products and services, providing a 'one stop shop' for critical applications such as Diver Monitoring, Digital Diver Communications and Gas Analysis Systems. Two years ago Maven Capital Partners invested £4.25m in a management buy-out of the company.

Inventor of the Year

Winner: Garry Stewart for his invention Loo Blade

LooBlade is a germ-killing, quick-drying reinvention of the toilet brush that uses an 8-blade silicone head to enhance cleaning power. LooBlade's head follows the toilet contours, reaches under the rim with ease, and contains an anti-microbial additive that helps kill 99.9 per cent of germs, both during and after cleaning. The product has been granted a patent in the UK, and European and world patents are pending.

The judges described Stewart's story as "inspiring". To help cover the initial costs of tooling and manufacturing, LooBlade was launched on crowdfunding site Kickstarter, with the goal of raising £20,000 in four weeks.

By the end of the campaign, LooBlade had smashed its funding goal, raising £51,000 from backers all over the world.

It also received enquiries from retailers and distributors from across the world following the campaign. A deal for pan-European distribution and sales with a major retailer based in Germany has already been signed, with a distribution channel also set up in Australia and New Zealand. And the company is nearing finalisation of deals in the Americas, Asia, Middle East and Africa. ■

