



SHAPA Announces the winners of the 2020 Solids Handling Industry Awards

This year the Solids Handling Industry Award Ceremony has been held using an online Zoom Platform, showing that despite the lockdown and the changes in working practices the SHAPA community continues to work together to develop new and exciting products, export all over the world, develop our young people and celebrate the successes of our industry. The winners of the 2020 Solids handling Industry awards are:-

Innovation Award – Aptech

Aptech developed an enhanced automated dosing system for a global manufacturer of a precision grinding wheels manufacturer in Mexico who needed to find a cost effective and technically proven system for the accurate and repeatable weighing and dispensing of very free flowing powdered products from 280 separate containment vessels into 1301b (60kg) plastic tubs ready for transport to the clients mixing facility. The system is now fully commissioned



Export Award – Thames Side Sensors

After deciding to focus on India in 2011 Thames Side Sensors first year sales were just £10,000 but hard work establishing the brand and extensive visits to potential customers has resulted in exceptional double digit profitable growth every year since incorporation despite occasional downturns in the Indian economy. This year, ending in March 2020 will see a 21% growth on last year and sales will be approaching 1/2 of Thames Side UK's turnover.





Newcomer Award – Matthew Ringland (Spiroflow)

In his role as a Mechanical Design Engineer at Spiroflow, Matthew is always willing to assist, train others and maintain high levels of output. He has been recognised by several co-workers over the last few months for his hard work and dedication to the role. He is hardworking and passionate about his work, which really shows in what he produces. He is always willing to think outside of the box which in our industry is a must! As of 2019 he is now a STEM ambassador and goes into schools and joins events throughout the year to promote engineering to all ages.



SHAPA Company of the Year – Russell Finex

Established in 1934, Russell Finex has been a leader in the manufacture of high-quality sieving and filtration solutions for over 85 years. An increase of 26% in global sales in the last three years alone illustrates the continued success and growth of the company. Being owned by the employee benefit trust, Russell Finex employees enjoy a stable working environment. Such a structure allows for long-term business decisions to be made with the aim to grow organically. Organic growth is reflected not only in increased profits, but also in terms of providing employment opportunities, with over 28% increase in workforce in the last five years.



In addition to the above awards a special award of an engraved Silver Salver was presented to Peter Guttridge in recognition of a significant contribution to the Solids and Bulk Handling Industry. Peter who recently retired from Guttridge, has been successfully involved in the industry for over 30 years and in addition to being a valued member of the IMechE Bulk Handling Committee, Peter has also been very supportive of SHAPA having served on the SHAPA council for over 15 years two of those been Chairman. We wish him well in his retirement.