

And the winner is...

The Forton Group are the sponsors of the inaugural Women in Logistics UK Jean Haslam Company of the Year award, presented at their annual Ball and Awards Ceremony, Friday 6th July 2012. The winners, Premier Farnell, were represented by Mel McAughtrie and a team of delighted staff.

The award was named after the late Jean Haslam, a pioneer in the male-dominated world of transport of the 1950's. In 1977 she was voted the best transport manager in the US army: remarkably the first non-American citizen and the first woman to receive this award.

Her son, David Haslam, addressed the audience on behalf of her family and the announcement followed a rigorous process of shortlisting applications, and a public vote. Premier Farnell was up against CEVA Logistics and Pepsico, and was presented at the WIL Ball at Chesford Grange Hotel in the West Midlands.

In winning Premier Farnell was highlighted as truly integrating diversity into the organisation, and not just having policies, processes and goals in place. Each leader has a diversity objective, including a gender-specific one.

Helen Caton Hughes, CEO, the Forton Group, who presented the award said "I'm personally delighted to see such a strong short-list of companies, and to present the award on behalf of the 2,000 plus members of Women in Logistics. At the Forton Group we encourage more companies to celebrate diversity and this starts at the top. Leaders who recognise and champion the benefits that diversity brings are setting the gold standard for great leadership.

The Forton Group, a leadership, coaching and training consultancy, actively supports Women in Logistics UK through their mentoring programme.

Further details about the Forton Group can be found at www.thefortongroup.com