
MEDIA RELEASE

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T&T CHAMBER ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY AWARD

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce will host the annual Champions of Business award ceremony on November 1, 2018, at the National Academy for the Performing Arts (NAPA) in Port of Spain.

In recognition of the significant role that technology plays in business development and re-engineering, **bmobile** has come on board as the platinum sponsor of this new **Business Technology Award**. This first-time award category seeks to recognise the creation of an innovative, disruptive, technology-based company or solution that has had a significant impact to either its target users or its industry as a whole.

The T&T Chamber is pleased to announce the three finalists:

- **Key Stone Designs Limited for www.shuphub.com**

ShupHub.com is a new, innovative e-commerce platform with an advanced technology solution that gives vendors full control of their microsites through a user-friendly interface. The site also offers a delivery system via Universal Packaging Systems (the local contractor for UPS). ShupHub encourages customers to shop locally (and soon, within CARICOM), versus shopping internationally. The company also does an outreach to schools and assists Information and Communications Technology (ICT) students by staging seminars and providing them with work opportunities. In order to keep the next generation of tech-savvy business owners on their toes, ShupHub has helped a number of young entrepreneurs with their start-ups by educating them about the various aspects of ICT.

- **Sun Tixx Caribbean for www.suntixx.com**

Sun Tixx Caribbean Limited is a totally technology-driven, event-ticketing service provider, which manages the generation, distribution and sale of tickets for any size or type of event. Similar to Ticketmaster and Eventbrite, the service has added features that are specific to both the needs and infrastructure of the region. Sun Tixx is essentially an online hub for events in Trinidad and Tobago – but unlike other local event hubs, it goes beyond just providing event information and marketing. Instead, it offers instant and convenient access to tickets via various sales channels. A primary sponsor for a number of sports and charitable events, Sun Tixx has given back by being a charitable sponsor of the T20 Cricket Match in 2017, which raised funds for Caribbean-based victims of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, which devastated parts of the region during the 2017 Atlantic hurricane season.

- **WiPay (Trinidad and Tobago) Limited for WiPay**

By making digital payments through its unique, 12-character string – similar to entering a credit card number online – WiPay's recent top-up (or digital cash) service provides an unprecedented level of financial inclusion for people who don't have traditional bank accounts. WiPay's rapidly expanding regional footprint is testimony to the system's positive implications for local and regional e-commerce, as well as other forms of online transactions. In 2016, as a means of boosting regional e-commerce – especially for micro, small and medium enterprises – WiPay built a credit card processing platform, and thereafter developed a series of Application Programme Interfaces (APIs), which facilitate seamless credit card processing and can be easily integrated into any merchant's online store. Even better, all of its APIs are available for FREE download on WiPay's website.

The award recipient in this category will be announced on the night of November 1, 2018, at the Champions of Business award ceremony and cocktail reception.

The T&T Chamber congratulates our three finalists in the Business Technology category. To celebrate with the finalists and award recipients in all four award categories, we invite you to book your tickets for the most significant business award event for the year: contact Sharmin Boodoo at 637-6966 ext. 1252, or email sboodoo@chamber.org.tt .

Next up, the T&T Chamber will release the names of the finalists for the Start-up Entrepreneur, Emerging Entrepreneur and Small and Medium Entrepreneur of the Year award categories, thanks to the support of our platinum sponsors (First Citizens, EY and bmobile), gold sponsor (Guardian Group), and silver sponsors (Atlantic, Agostini's and the Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation), as well as Planting Seeds (our social media partner for the promotion of the event).

Thanks to the support of the High Commission of Canada to Trinidad and Tobago, Serial Technology Entrepreneur Peter Van De Gracht will deliver our feature address this year. Entitled "Innovation and Digital Disruption", this riveting talk will explore the role of technology in the creation and re-shaping of today's businesses.

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FROM THE MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS UNIT