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2011 NPA
Awards for Professionalism



Network Computing Professionals Winners Honored for Professionalism and Excellence

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA – May 11, 2011. The Network Professional Association® (NPA), in conjunction with Interop, Microsoft, GITCA, Cisco Press and Agile IT announce four individuals as winners of the tenth annual Awards for Professionalism. The international contest for the Awards for Professionalism honors individuals working as network computing professionals. Selection is based on meeting the ideals of the Network Professional Association, the advocate for the network computing professional. Winners will receive a specially designed personalized trophy, a one-year membership in the NPA and a Cisco Press prize pack with multiple books of their choice. Read the story at www.AwardsforProfessionalism.org.

Congratulations to our esteemed winners in the following categories:

The Best Networking Professional – Career Achievement Award is awarded to an



individual who has demonstrated the highest levels of integrity, professionalism and ethics throughout their career. **Brian Cameron** is Executive Director of the Center for Enterprise Architecture and Professor of Practice in the College of Information Sciences and Technology at the Pennsylvania State University. Within the College of Information Sciences and Technology, he works with a wide portfolio of companies on a variety of consulting engagements, ranging from systems integration projects to enterprise architecture planning and design. Through his academic work, Cameron has consulted with organizations such as Avaya, AT&T Wireless, Raytheon, Accenture, Oracle, EMC Corp., NSA, U.S. Marine Corps, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, and many others. His primary research and consulting interests include enterprise architecture, enterprise systems integration, information management and storage, and the use of simulations and gaming in education. The main focus areas for his teaching efforts are on senior-level capstone enterprise integration, enterprise architecture, and information technology consulting & storage architecture courses.

Professional Excellence and Innovation Award honors the network computing professional who has made the most effective combination of the ideals of professionalism and the innovative use of networking technology and/or products for a particular networking project and is awarded in several different categories.



Professional Excellence and Innovation Award: Corporate Small Business winner, **Vivek Thangaswamy** is currently a Senior SharePoint and .NET Solution Developer for TCS in India. He has an extensive experience as an IT professional that began with a Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology. Vivek has authored *VSTO 3.0 for Office 2007 Programming*, Packt Publishing and co-authored *System Analysis and Design*, Lambert Academic Publishing. He has been awarded Microsoft's Most Valuable Professional (MVP) in SharePoint in 2008 and 2009 and in ASP.NET in 2007. Presently working for Australia's prestigious airlines, Qantas; he has also done development work for DWP on a United Kingdom government project. Awarded 3 Gold rings for best academic performance, Vivek's certifications include MCP, MCAD, MCSD, MSPD-EA II and BrainBench Certification in ASP.NET, C#, SharePoint 2003 and Experts Exchange master certified in XML.



Top of the Mark - Volunteer Award honors the networking professional who has made the most effective combination of the ideals of professionalism and is a notable example of the best in giving back through selfless effort. **Soumitra Sengupta** has been a Technology Community Leader for over 10 years. In 2002 he was awarded the Community Star by Microsoft India and started to participate in Microsoft News Groups in 2003. He was Awarded Microsoft's Most Valuable Professional Award (MVP) in 2003 and has continued to receive this award every year to date. He was awarded the Voice of Community Hero Award in April, 2009. As an IT Pro Group Leader, GITCA, UG Lead Windows Support User Group, and also one of the administrators of merawindows.com, Soumitra is actively associated with Microsoft Answers and was one of the top contributors in help and troubleshooting in Microsoft News Group worldwide before its discontinuation. Soumitra took on the challenge to make the local people aware of latest technologies that were happening all around the world. He founded Windows Support UG, a local user group that organizes various events on Microsoft technologies and helps people both online and offline. This user group is GITCA associated and is the only user group in the entire North East India!



CNP Torch Bearer Award honors senior members of the computing profession who have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the profession or the industry by demonstrating that they embody the spirit of the CNP. Our first annual winner, **Barry Sellers** is one the many pioneers of the Network Professional Association, a Distinguished Fellow of the Network Professional Association (DFNPA). Barry was active in the formation of the Association and a guide to building the standards of NPA today. He was the founder and president of the Shreveport Chapter of the Network Professional Association (1993 - 1995). During the years 1995 through 1998 Barry Sellers served as a member of the NPA Board of Directors including as tenure as chairman. Barry is a visionary of the Certified Network Professional program started in 1996 and was part of the original implementation team.

This year's awards will culminate with a dinner celebration during at Interop in Las Vegas at the Four Season's Verandah Restaurant in Mandalay Bay. NPA members, Consortium partners as well as and past and present winners are invited to attend!

Sponsors of the Awards for Professionalism

Interop, the leading business technology event, is proud to support NPA's Awards for Professionalism, honoring outstanding contributions in the networking industry held during Interop Las Vegas, April 25-29 at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center.

Microsoft, a leader in the support of IT professionalism and ethics, is proud to support NPA's Awards for Professionalism, honoring the inspiring activities of network computing professionals around the world.

Cisco Press is a publishing alliance between Cisco® (NASDAQ: CSCO) and the Pearson Education division of Pearson plc (NYSE: PSO). Established in 1996, Cisco Press is the official publisher of Cisco networking technology, Cisco certification self-study, and Cisco Networking Academy Program materials. Leading authorities from Cisco and other industry innovators write and contribute to the Cisco Press product family which combines instructor-led training with hands-on instruction, e-learning, and self-study.

Cisco Press is proud to support the Network Professional Association (NPA) in awarding outstanding achievements within the network computing industry. Providing education materials and promoting professional growth are part of the Cisco Press mission; sponsoring the NPA awards allows Cisco Press to recognize those who have truly excelled in the industry. Visit ciscopress.com for more information.

***GITCA (Global IT Community Association)** is an international not-for-profit organization devoted to the development and growth of the IT community. After supporting and connecting professional user groups and associations, student organizations, and solution providers for more than four years we have come to understand the goals and needs of each group, as well as the resources they have to share. We are happy to support the efforts of organizations such as the NPA that promote excellence in all that they do, ultimately elevating the status of the IT Pro both in their industry and in the community.*

***AgileIT** From deploying half-a-million desktops with new software, systems, and applications, to cloud migrations, to malware protection, Agile IT covers the entire spectrum of business IT needs. With a core competency in helping clients get more from their existing Microsoft Solutions, Agile IT delivers expertise in planning and consulting, hands-on development work, management and maintenance, training, and more. The entire team at Agile IT is honored to support the NPA in its ongoing mission of fostering both better practices and communities among network computing professionals, and continuing to ensure the highest standards are met and maintained.*

NPA, Established 1993, the non-profit Network Professional Association® (NPA) is the leading organization for network computing professionals. To be identified as true professionals, the NPA's international membership adheres to a code-of-ethics, continual demonstrated professional development, adherence and knowledge of the latest best practice standards, and strives for continual growth. The widely acknowledged and the industry's only international Awards for Professionalism honors individuals for their

outstanding achievements in network computing and meeting the values of professionalism. The impartial strength of the NPA is a result of vendor neutrality and self-regulation.

*The **CNP** is the consummate professional credential of the NPA. Career growth, proven experience, validated certification, advanced education, ethics and NPA membership are all steps towards achieving the **CNP** – Certified Network Professional credential.*

*A member of the NPA believes in the values of the professional association, its focus on the **CNP** credential and the professional status of network professionals through advocacy. Members receive a certificate of membership, quarterly Journal publications, benefits derived through chapters and programs, and opportunities to volunteer, publish and develop.*

NPA: ADVOCATE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK COMPUTING PROFESSIONAL