ITSPA

NEWS RELEASE

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Internet Telephony Services Providers' Association
The Voice of Advanced Communications

2015 ITSPA Awards launch

ITSPA, the industry body representing the VoIP sector is accepting entries for the 2015 ITSPA Awards, sponsored by Magrathea.

The Awards, now in their seventh year are free to enter and open to all representatives of the VoIP industry, including non-ITSPA members.

Eli Katz, Chair of the ITSPA Council said, "It is with great pleasure that I announce the launch of the 2015 ITSPA Awards. The event continues to provide an excellent way for the VoIP industry to acknowledge and celebrate its best performers, particularly as VoIP becomes mainstream. I look forward another great reception to see the results of what will undoubtedly be a competitive nomination and testing process".

To enter the awards, companies should select the category or categories they wish to enter, and register for nominations at www.itspaawards.org.uk. Registration for technical tested categories ends on 31st October 2014, with all written entries to be received by 13th February 2015.

The awards ceremony will take place at The Tate Modern on Thursday 19th March 2015.

The award categories for this year are:

- Best Consumer VoIP
- Best Business ITSP (Small Enterprise, Medium Enterprise and Corporate)
- Best VoIP CPE
- Best VoIP Infrastructure
- Best VoIP Innovation
- VoIP Product

- ITSPA Members' Pick
- ITSPA Council Pick

Malden Electronics will conduct the technical testing for three award categories: Best Consumer VoIP; Best Business ITSP (Small Enterprise); and Best Business (Medium Enterprise). Entrants in these categories will undergo two months of technical testing as well as submitting a written entry submission. The deadline to enter the testing phase for these categories is **Friday 31st October 2014**.

All award categories, except the Members' and Council Pick Awards, (including the three categories that have a testing phase) will be judged on a written self-assessment entry which should be submitted by **Friday 13th February 2015**.

The winners will be chosen by a panel of independent experts, based on the results of the technical testing as well as the written self-assessments.

Linus Surguy, Technical Director of Magrathea, sponsors of the 2015 Awards, said, "Magrathea is delighted to continue its support of this prestigious industry event and is looking forward to the fantastic new venue which boasts beautiful views of London and the Thames. We encourage all companies to get involved and to put forward the products and services to ensure another competitive industry event."

Timeline:

1 October 2014: ITSPA Awards 2015 launch – testing registration begins

31 October 2014: Deadline to enter the Testing Phase

13 February 2015: Deadline for all written self-assessments

19 March 2015: ITSPA Awards 2015 awards ceremony

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Note to editors:

About ITSPA (www.itspa.org.uk)

ITSPA is the UK's industry body for Internet Telephony Service Providers. It was founded in 2004 and now has over 80 members, ranging from the largest Tier one operators to the new entrants, providing services to millions of consumers and businesses.

About VoIP

Internet Telephony is the ability to make voice calls over any Internet Protocol (IP) connection, particularly broadband, using Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP). IP Communications also enable a rich multi-media set of advanced services, including Video, High Definition Sound, Instant Messaging and Presence. Internet Telephony Service Providers can provide regular and enhanced phone line services – often at substantial cost reductions.

The ITSPA Awards are sponsored by Magrathea:

About Magrathea: (http://www.magrathea-telecom.co.uk/)

Magrathea is the UK's premier supplier of carrier services and managed solutions in all areas of computers and communications. First established in 1995 we have seen the industry grow and change. Our experience is a key part of the service that we deliver to you and your customers.

Our network spans both the PSTN and IP World, with multiple connections to multiple top tier TDM carriers, including a full BT & Eircom interconnect allowing us to fully integrate with the SS#7 network in both the UK and Ireland. Our IP network is diverse with multiple Tier-1 transit suppliers as well as peering at Linx supplemented by private peering with key IP providers. The network is fully NGN enabled allowing us to fully support Voice over IP interconnection and services.

Our technology is entirely developed in house but draws upon industry standards and utilises industrial strength components for ultimate carrier grade reliability.

Our switching facilities, based within Telehouse London, Bristol and Dublin give us access to virtually unlimited capacity and bandwidth and access to the best carrier networks in the world.

Magrathea are a leading wholesale VoIP provider in the UK, supporting both SIP and IAX. Our solutions include;

- Managed National and International Voice Connectivity, combining competitive rates with high call quality
- Providing UK and Ireland geographic and non-geographic numbering
- Hosted Billing Solutions
- Number Hosting
- Number Portability
- Providing 999 emergency service calling solutions

About Malden Electronics (www.malden.co.uk)

What do integrated circuit designers, network equipment developers, terminal makers, network operators and large enterprises have in common?

Many of these companies rely on speech quality test systems developed by Malden to evaluate and refine the performance of their products and services.

Malden's products make real telephone calls using real speech signals. They measure the performance of the network *from the perspective of the user*, taking into account the parameters which are important to *user satisfaction*. When did you last hear a telephone user complain that "jitter is bad today"?

Malden's approach to business is personal, too. The requirements of an operator are very different to those of an integrated circuit maker, even though "speech quality" features in both. We meet our future customers in person, taking time to understand their concerns. We encourage no-obligation evaluation loans, allowing the benefits of our test systems to speak for themselves. Best of all, we do not forget our customers after they buy a test system - we continue to welcome their questions, requests for assistance and ideas for new product features. Whilst we boast many years of engineering excellence in the speech performance field, we are also proud that some of the best features in our products were inspired by our customers. Troubleshooting, checking out the competition, long-term monitoring of performance, network optimisation - these are some of the ways Malden's test systems bring real value. After all, what is the cost of inferior speech quality?