

# QS News Awards 2006

In our second of three previews of contenders vying for the QS News Awards, we take a look at four categories: QS Champion of the Year, Best Training Initiative, QS Young Achiever of the Year and Best Innovation. The winners will be revealed at our ceremony on 8 December.

## QS Champion of the Year

### Guy Austin

Guy Austin has been a fine ambassador for the profession on a global stage during his 26 years at consultant Ridge. His tireless work in that period culminated in a key role on the new British High Commission in Kampala, Uganda. The scheme posed major challenges in terms of sustainability and safety but Austin passed with flying colours.

### Frank Maitland

Since starting MaitlandQS in 1987, Frank Maitland has made a major impact on the burgeoning M&E QS sector. The firm is now well established as a major niche player in a discipline that grows in importance by the year. The firm has also made significant strides in addressing the skills shortage in the sector.

### Paul Morrell

Paul Morrell leaves the firm he dominated for the past quarter of a century next year. In his time there, Davis Langdon has established itself as one of the premier global brands in QSing. But Morrell has been much more than just a one-firm man. In roles at design watchdog CABE and the British Council for Offices he has offered fresh and erudite ideas for the construction industry as a whole.

### James Nisbet

Nisbet is quite simply one of the most influential figures in the profession of the last 50 years. And at the age of 86, he is showing no sign of slowing down. His new book on building contracts, *Building Contracts Reformed*, offers a fresh perspective on the massive changes to procurement over the last decade, questioning ideas that have so far appeared sacrosanct.

### Paul Phillips/Paul Mitchell

What was the most successful project completed this year? Arsenal stadium. And the firm that played a key hand in the successful completion this summer? QS and project manager AYH. For this the roles of both the project director Paul Phillips and cost manager Paul Mitchell need to be jointly credited.

### Sponsored by:



Faithful+Gould is delighted to sponsor the QS Champion of the Year award. The category truly demonstrates our commitment to ensuring our employees are 'champions' in their given field. We encourage our QSs to develop in the industry, which in turn offers unrivalled expert knowledge to support our clients.

Confirming our constructive expertise in the industry, Faithful+Gould have been short listed for 6 award categories including: QS Employer of the Year, Best All Round QS Firm, Best Project Management Firm, Young Achiever of the Year, Best Innovation, Best M&E Specialist Cost Consultants.

## Best training initiative

### APC Coach

In such a hectic industry, how do QSs pass the gruelling RICS qualifications and get adequate coaching and support from their employers? The solution is to outsource training to APC Coach. Candidates can get specialist help either via the in-house coaching programme or, on a needs basis, through public coaching events. The firm claims a 95% pass rate for its students, while the national average stands at 60%.

### Durnien.com

As an accredited Investors in People firm, Durnien.com commits itself to an on-going training scheme. Staff are encouraged to learn new skills, explore new avenues and report back through weekly, monthly and quarterly meetings. The result has been happier employees who feel valued and confident in their knowledge.

### MaitlandQS

The QS specialist in mechanical and electrical services has set up one of the only courses dedicated specifically to M&E QSing. Having convinced the University of Salford to develop a specialist programme for M&E QSs, the firm then convinced a group of M&E contractors to sponsor and shape the programme. Workshops were held in mid 2006 to gauge industry reaction, which was extremely positive. Funding has now been approved and the university is welcoming applications for the School of Construction for January 2007.

### Turner & Townsend

Yorkshire Water Services tasked T&T with developing a scheme to help clients understand issues surrounding the Asset Management Plan 4, Large Schemes programme. T&T created LS E-learning, an accessible, user-friendly web-based learning tool. It provides modules in all YWS' targeted areas for improvement, which are illustrated through the PPP model. The scheme has been a real success and was awarded a certificate of merit at the Yorkshire firm's Business Excellence Awards.

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Haleys are proud to be sponsoring the Best Training Initiative award, an award that we feel reflects a true commitment to employee

## A quick reminder of last year's winners



Best all round QS firm:  
Boxall Sayer



International Achievement  
Award: Savant



Best M&E Specialist Cost  
Consultant: Maitland QS



Best in-house QS team:  
Defence Estates



Best Strategic  
Construction Adv  
Improving Perform