

Abnoba CEO nominated for 'Top ICT Businessman in Africa Award'

[Johannesburg, 27 October 2005] - Abnoba CEO, Fairoz Jaffer, has been named one of the finalists for the Top ICT Businessman in Africa Award in the 2005 African ICT Achievers Awards. Abnoba is a local black empowered company focusing on digital process automation.

As the premier ICT awards programme event in Africa, the African ICT Achievers Awards honours and rewards excellence in ICT from both a company and individual perspective. It aims to reward growth, innovation and self-sustainability among African entrepreneurs and to create role models in the industry.

This programme is designed to stimulate business in the ICT services and solutions environment between Africa and the rest of the world. It acts as a catalyst for the stimulation of leading-edge solutions across the African continent and recognises organisations and individuals responsible for spearheading this change.

"Apart from creating role models of black ICT excellence, it also encourages the continued growth of black entrepreneurship," says Jaffer. "With the ongoing involvement and eventual partnership between the Department of Communications and ForgeAhead, the awards, which were traditionally Black ICT Achievers recognition, now include the whole of Africa from a non-racial perspective, without compromising the need to attract more black professionals into the ICT sector within South Africa."

"We can confidently say the African ICT Achievers Awards programme is succeeding in its mandate to be a catalyst for growth and innovation in the sector. We are also very excited about the renewed commitment from the industry to ensure it invests in the youth and under-served communities through the platform provided by the programme and our corporate social investment (CSI) leg of Achievers is running well and making an impact on those that need it most," says Jane Mosebi, managing director of ForgeAhead - owner of the African ICT Achievers Awards programme.

The African ICT Achievers Awards incorporates a CSI element by awarding prizes in specific categories that are then in turn donated to worthy causes.

"The objective of this is really to take technology to those people who would not ordinarily have access to it," says Mosebi. "It is by giving access to technology that we will create an even bigger interest for entry into the sector among Africa's youth."