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Unipart wins Environmental Leadership Award for Excellence

Unipart Group has won the Example of Excellence in Environmental Leadership Award in the Business in the Community Annual Awards for Excellence. The award was presented to Unipart at the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of some of the UK's largest and most influential responsible companies.

The BITC Awards for Excellence are the UK's most important corporate responsibility awards. They put Unipart amongst the best companies in the world for environmental leadership and demonstrate to both existing stakeholders and potential customers the company's deep commitment to continuously improving environmental performance and to leading the way on environmental issues.

Commenting on Unipart's entry the judges stated that Unipart had embedded its environmental strategy into its core business practice by reducing its carbon footprint in partnership with its suppliers, partners and clients achieving 23% waste reduction from landfill, increasing the proportion of waste being recycled by 19% and decreasing its water consumption by 18%.

They said the company demonstrated compelling evidence of leadership across all aspects of environmental performance. They were particularly impressed by the clear demonstration of employee engagement which they regarded as an inspiring and successful example of embedding sustainability systemically across the business and individuals.

They were also impressed by Unipart's supplier mapping which demonstrated the company's leadership across many different sectors, and the engagement Unipart showed at local level with smaller businesses as well as on a larger scale with strategic partners and suppliers showing clearly that the company values all stakeholders.

Now in its 14th year, the Awards for Excellence is a prestigious annual showcase of the UK's best responsible businesses in action. The Awards highlight the best examples of the positive impact businesses are having in the environment, amongst their employees, through the supply chains and in the local communities in which they operate.

Unipart Group Chief Executive, John Neill said: "The competition for the awards is very fierce and winning this award would not have been possible without the actions and commitment of many people across the business. Unipart employees really care about the environment and therefore use the tools and techniques of the Unipart Way to really make a difference. This award is a great recognition of their commitment and will inspire us to go even further in the future."

Paul Kelly Corporate Affairs Director of Asda and chair of 2011 judging panel said of our submission "Unipart truly demonstrated exactly what we were looking for in this category: a company demonstrating leadership in sustainability by embedding environmental strategy into core business processes. It demonstrates leadership from within the organisation and across the organisation. As a new approach to leadership, this entry will really inspire others – it is incredibly inclusive."

Stephen Howard, Chief Executive of Business in the Community, said: "Each year the Awards for Excellence showcases the most inspiring and impactful examples of corporate responsibility in action. Each of our winners displays a genuine commitment to continually improve their business practices and transform the communities in which they operate and do business. Our winners should be proud of their achievements particularly in these challenging times. They are taking a genuine stand to prove that doing business and doing good are not mutually exclusive concerns. We hope that by sharing their stories and successes, other companies will be challenged to place responsible business at the heart of their operation."

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Editors' Notes:

The BITC Awards in numbers

With all national and regional award entries combined, BITC received 394 entries in 2011. 123 entries resulted in National Big Tick awards, and 65 of these were shortlisted for the Example of Excellence within their category. 87 companies had their 2009/2010 national Big Ticks reaccredited this year.

For full details and case studies of all the 2011 Awards for Excellence winners visit www.bitc.org.uk/awards2011. For images please visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/businessinthecommunity/sets/72157626951830621/>.



John M Neill, Unipart Group Chief Executive receives the Asda Environmental Leadership Award from Paul Kelly Corporate Affairs Director at Asda and BBC presenter Mishal Hussain.

For a high resolution version of this photograph please contact Unipart Group Communications Manager, Debbie Daly.

About The Unipart Group

The Unipart Group employs more than 10,000 personnel worldwide and has an annual turnover of more than £1billion. It is a leading full service logistics provider and consultant in operational excellence.

Operating across a range of market sectors, including automotive, leisure, marine, manufacturing, mobile telecoms, rail, retail and technology, Unipart offers a breadth of services from third party logistics to expert consultancy.

All Unipart sites operate according to the Group's proprietary version of Lean known as The Unipart Way. This is a philosophy of working underpinned by tools and techniques that inspires efficiency, flexibility and outstanding customer service in any process.

Unipart also offers expert consultancy in implementing Lean principles and in supply chain management across a variety of industry sectors.

The Group's clients include Sainsbury's, ASOS.com, Homebase, Vodafone, 3, BSkyB, Jaguar Land Rover, Virgin Media and HMRC.