



SOUTHAMPTON SERIAL ENTREPRENEUR WINS A BUSINESS OSCAR

Anne Duncan, CEO of Southampton-based Yellowfin, is celebrating after winning an award at this year's South region finals of Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur Of The Year programme, held at the Radisson Edwardian Hotel, Heathrow, last night.

Competing against 32 of the South Region's most inspirational and dynamic entrepreneurs, Anne Duncan scooped the Master Entrepreneur Of The Year award in recognition of her inspirational career in which she founded and lead businesses in several different markets. Her latest business venture is Yellowfin – a company that has developed a highly innovative propulsion system for marine craft.

While running a motorboat company, Anne realised that marine propulsion technology was surprisingly basic and on recognising this gap in the market set up Yellowfin which developed a revolutionary high-speed propulsion system called Variable Surface Drive (VSD). The system represents a leap forward in manoeuvrability, ease of use, fuel consumption and performance.

Andrew Jupp, head of Ernst & Young's South region entrepreneurial growth markets team at Ernst & Young, said: "Anne's focus, determination and drive have been reflected in her success with several companies. She has an ability to continually inspire and encourage those around her and make her business objectives a reality. On behalf of Ernst & Young and the programme's sponsors - Coutts & Co, the London Stock Exchange and The Times - I would like to congratulate Anne and wish her the best of luck at the national awards in October."

Anne Duncan will now go on to compete in the National final at the Grosvenor House Hotel in October, where she will be judged alongside other regional winners from across the UK. The National overall winner will then go forward to compete for the accolade of World Entrepreneur Of The Year in 2006.

The Entrepreneur Of The Year awards programme, now in its seventh year in the UK, takes place in over 40 countries around the world with nearly 10,000 entrepreneurs having competed at regional, national and international levels. The programme is sponsored by Coutts & Co, the London Stock Exchange and The Times.