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ARQIVA COMMERCIAL RADIO AWARDS 2010 WINNERS ANNOUNCED

- Bauer triumphs with five awards
- Double honour for LBC 97.3's Nick Ferrari
- Absolute Radio awarded programmer and presenter of the year
- Oxfordshire's 106 Jack fm, The Bay, Hallam FM and Real Radio West each scoop 2 gongs
- FunKids named Digital Station of the Year

Representative from across commercial radio gathered this evening in central London for the Arqiva Commercial Radio Awards. The ceremony was hosted by Absolute Radio's Christian O'Connell at the Westminster Bridge Park Plaza Hotel, and guest presenters included Emma Bunton, Shadow Culture Secretary Ben Bradshaw, John Whittingdale MP, Ken Livingstone, Iain Lee, Mark Goodier, David Jenson and Tom Parker Bowles. Attendees were treated to live performances from best-selling female artist, Katie Melua, girl band sensation, The Saturdays, and new boy band, The Wanted.

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Awards, now in their 15th year, are organised by RadioCentre, the industry body for commercial radio and produced by Crying Out Loud Productions. The 25 awards recognise excellence and talent in all aspects of commercial radio.

Bauer Radio triumphed by winning no less than five awards across the evening, including 2 of the 3 Presenter of the Year Awards for Moray Firth Radio's Knoxy (<300,000 TSA) and 96.3 Radio Aire's Rich Williams (300,000 to 1m TSA). Williams was described by judges as 'a real self-starter with a knowledge of Leeds that gives him a unique edge over the competition', while they applauded Knoxy as 'vibrant, funny, and a great ambassador for the station'.

LBC 97.3's Nick Ferrari was honoured with two gongs. Nick Ferrari at Breakfast was named Triple A Media Breakfast Show of the Year, while Ferrari, described by Arqiva's Paul Eaton as 'a true radio star, a sparkling jewel in commercial radio's crown', was awarded The Arqiva Gold Award in recognition of his 'outstanding contribution to the industry over the last twelve months'.

Absolute Radio's Clive Dickens was named Programmer of the Year, praised for making Absolute 'one of the most engaging and ambitious stations in the UK, and the first to achieve over 50% of its

national listening on digital', whilst Geoff Lloyd of Absolute was named Presenter of the Year (1m + TSA).

There was further double success for Oxfordshire's 106 JACKfm, winning Special Programme of the Year for Ali Booker's Cancer Diaries, praised as 'a moving, and often funny account which touched listeners in a big way', and Station Imaging of the Year; The Bay, winning Station of the Year (300,000 to 1m TSA) and Local Sales Team of the Year, who have seen their profits rise by 40%; Hallam FM, winning Radio Marketing Award for Get Me to the Church on Time 2 and Station of the Year (1m to TSA), described by judges as possessing 'fantastic marketing activity and community interaction'; and Real Radio North West, winning the News Team of the Year and Social Action Initiative Award for Websafe, an 'ambitious and effective multi-media campaign, using the web and local TV as well as radio, to tackle a serious issue affecting young people'.

FunKids was honoured as Digital Station of the Year, praised as 'unique in targeting parents who want their children to listen to radio for fun, games and learning', and 106.4 Andover Sound picked up the Station of the Year (<300,000 TSA) and applauded as 'an integral part of countless charitable and community events'. Technical Innovation of the Year was awarded to the Global Radio Creativity Technology Team for their RadioVIS System, for 'providing an enhanced visual experience for over 80 radio stations.'

GTN were awarded National Sales Team of the Year and described as 'exciting advertisers with brand new on-air ideas'. John Perkins, former Managing Director of IRN, was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Awards, whilst Lisa Kerr was awarded the Chairman's Award in recognition of her 'exceptional performance in the long term development of commercial radio'. For the third year running Take That was named as the PPL Most Played UK Artist. Pudsey Grangefield, where over 200 pupils participate in the school's station, was awarded the Schools Radio Award, presented in association with the Vision Charity.

Lucy Jones of 107.6 Banbury Sound fought off competition from Heart's Emma Bunton to be named Newcomer of the Year, while Radio Feature of the Year was scooped by Radio City 96.7 for The Afghan Diaries – On the Front Line, described by judges as 'emotive and brutally honest'. Specialist Programme of the Year was awarded to 102.5 Radio Pembrokeshire's Friday Night Sport Show with Bill & Ben.

Paul Eaton, Head of Radio, Arqiva, said:

"Arqiva is hugely proud to be associated with these prestigious awards. They recognise the incredible diversity, talent and dedication that exist within commercial radio, both on and off-air, and the level of expertise among entries get stronger every year. Many congratulations to all the winners."

Andrew Harrison, Chief Executive, RadioCentre, commented:

“The Arqiva Commercial Radio Awards are a testament to the incredible hard work that our stations commit to producing the very best content for listeners across the country. With the standard of entrants higher than ever, and the introduction of new awards, they are a true reflection of the terrific service the commercial radio sector delivers.”

Ends

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Awards 2010 Winners List follows:

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Feature of the Year

The Afghan Diaries - On the Front Line - Radio City 96.7

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Special Programme of the Year

Ali Booker's Cancer Diaries – Oxfordshire's 106 JACKfm

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Specialist Programme of the Year

Friday Night Sport Show with Bill & Ben - 102.5 Radio Pembrokeshire

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Social Action Initiative Award

Real Radio Websafe - Real Radio North West

The Arqiva/Triple A Media Breakfast Show of the Year

Nick Ferrari at Breakfast - LBC 97.3

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Schools Radio Award (in association with The Vision Charity)

Pudsey Grangefield School

The Arqiva /PPL Most Played UK Artist on Commercial Radio

Take That

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Marketing Award

Get Me to the Church on Time 2 - Hallam FM

The Arqiva Local Sales Team of the Year

The Bay Sales Team - The Bay

The Arqiva National Sales Team of the Year

GTN

Special Award – The Arqiva Commercial Radio Lifetime Achievement Award

John Perkins

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Technical Innovation of the Year

Global Radio RadioVIS System - Global Radio Creative Technology Team

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Station Imaging Award

Oxfordshire's 106 JACKfm

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Journalist/News Team of the Year

Real Radio North West News Team - Real Radio North West

The Arqiva/RCS \Commercial Radio Programmer of the Year

Clive Dickens - Absolute Radio

The Arqiva/Skillset Commercial Radio Newcomer of the Year

Lucy Jones - 107.6 Banbury Sound

The Arqiva Commercial Radio Presenter of the Year (< 300,000 TSA)

Knoxy - Moray Firth Radio (MFR)

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