



Continental Automated
Buildings Association

**Your Information
Source
for
Home & Building
Automation**

**North America's
Home & Building
Automation Association**

1173 Cyrville Road, Suite 210
Ottawa, ON K1J 7S6

Tel: 1. 613.686.1814
Fax: 1.613.744.7833
US/Canada: 1.888.798.CABA

Web: www.caba.org
E-mail: caba@caba.org

CABA ANNOUNCES CONNECTED@HOME AWARD WINNERS

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The Continental Automated Buildings Association announced the recipients of its 2005 Connected@Home awards. The awards were presented on October 6 to individuals and innovative, progressive companies who are leaders in the connected home sector at CABA's Connected@Home 2005 Conference & Expo, held at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas, NV.

"The award winners represented a brilliant group of professionals who have taken immense steps in furthering the industry," stated Ronald J. Zimmer, CABA President & CEO. "They each have listened to market demands and developed a wide array of technologies to deliver what can certainly be considered state-of-the-art products and services. These award winners were very difficult to narrow down, but all represent highly successful industry visionaries. This sends a strong message to our industry that the connected home is not only becoming a reality but a norm."

CABA's awards recognized the top companies that provide entertainment, data, voice communications and home management systems over broadband and other infrastructures. Award categories include the CABA Chairman Pinnacle Award recognizing both an outstanding industry visionary and company, Innovative Product of Year, Best Enabling Technology of the Year, and the CABA's Volunteer of the Year Award.

The awards were chosen by an independent panel of industry judges from a wide roster of nominees.

The CABA Chairman Pinnacle Award presented to an individual was given to Gary Shapiro, President and CEO of the Consumer Electronics Association. Shapiro heads up a trade association representing some 2,000 consumer electronic companies and which owns and produces the continent's largest annual trade show, the International CES.

The Pinnacle Award for Outstanding Company was presented to Home Automation, Inc., known as HAI. Since 1985, HAI has been a leader in integrated security and automation products, providing comfort, convenience, and safety for homeowners and businesses around the world. HAI has developed a full-line of award-winning automation products that are sold through our worldwide network of distribution partners and installed by over 1,000 dealers. The firm's product lines includes automation controllers, consoles and touch screens, lighting control switches, software to control automation systems (including Internet access), a full line of communicating thermostats, and an expanding line of accessories.

The Most Innovative Product of the Year Award was presented to Mediabolic, Inc. for its digital media player and server software that

enables OEM customers to ship connected entertainment products. Mediabolic's technologies can be embedded in products like televisions, set-top boxes, and network-attached storage devices, allowing consumer electronics and PC manufacturers to extend and differentiate their products.

The Best Enabling Technology of the Year Award was presented both to Z-Wave and ZigBee. Z-Wave is a wireless RF-based communications technology designed for residential and light commercial control and status reading applications such as meter reading, lighting and appliance control, HVAC, access control, and intruder and fire detection.

ZigBee is a published specification set of high-level communication protocols designed to use small, low power digital radios based on the IEEE 802.15.4 standard for wireless personal area networks (WPANs). The ZigBee technology can be used to define general purpose, inexpensive, self-organizing mesh networks that can be shared by industrial controls, medical devices, smoke and intruder alarms, building automation and home automation applications.

CABA's Volunteer of the Year Award was presented to Dr. Ken Wacks. Dr. Wacks has been a pioneer in establishing the home systems industry and a management advisor to more than 100 clients worldwide. For commercial buildings, Dr. Wacks has focused on the integration of building automation systems. Dr. Wacks is a featured contributor to the CABA magazine iHomes & Buildings under the byline "Ken Wacks' Perspectives." He also currently serves as chair of both the CABA Information Council and CABA Editorial Advisory Board. He also authored the book Home Automation and Utility Customer Services, distributed by Aspen Publishers and various CABA reports such as the Best-Practices Guide for Evaluating Intelligent Buildings Technologies. Dr. Wacks draws upon his business experience as an entrepreneur (founded a venture-backed startup) and a corporate manager of engineering and software teams. He received his Ph.D. from MIT as a Hertz fellow and studied at the MIT Sloan School of Management.

About CABA

The Continental Automated Buildings Association (CABA) is a leading industry association that promotes advanced technologies in homes and buildings in North America. More information is available at www.caba.org.

Media Contact:

Rawlson O'Neil King
Communications Director, CABA
king@caba.org
613.686.1814 x225
888.798.CABA (2222)