



Bahrain eContent Award 09

The Jury Committee of Bahrain eContent Award 09

After three consecutive days of exhaustive evaluation, the 2009 Bahrain eContent Awards (BEA) judging committee concluded its activities on Monday, January 12th 2009 at the Bahrain Institute of Technology (BIT), located in the GOSI Complex. The committee is comprised of an elite group of Bahraini eContent authorities and international experts and headed by Mr. Nawaf Abdulrahman, President of the Technical and Technological Committee of the BEA.

The jury committee hosted by Mr. Jak Boumans from Netherlands and Mr. Osama Manzar from India, besides the 11 local juries: Mr. Abbas Kassem, Group Managing Director at SJ Media Group, Mr. Mazen Al Haddad Managing Director at Elephant Talk, Mr. Ali Beshara Chief, Quality Assurance at General Organization for Youth & Sport, Mr. Farooq A. Aziz, IT Specialist, Graphics Designer & Expert Web Sites Developer at Bahrain Center for Studies & Research, Ms. Lulwa Sami Saleh, PR Manager at Seera Investment Bank, Mr. Jamal Al Khayyat Assistant Vice President Head of *Correspondent Relations & Internal Control* at Gulf International Bank Mrs. Ghazwa Sulai-beekh, Instructor –IS Department, IT College at University of Bahrain, Mr. Manaf Al Muhandis, Training Consultant at BDO lawad Habib, Mr. Santosh Dave, Senior Technical Consultant in e-Lite Technologies, Mr. Zuhair Al-Kooheji, Project Manager Northern Gulf at MENA eSolutions (TIBCO), and Mrs. Tahera Ahmed Sharif, Senior System Analyst at Electricity & Water.

Process of Jury in Bahrain eContent Award 09

The process of evaluating the participated products began by dividing the 15 members of the judging committee into 3 groups, whereby each group evaluates certain award categories. The evaluations were carried out according to the highest international standards found in similar international awards such as the World Summit Award.

The judging process was carried out in three main stages. The first stage involved sifting through the 440 total entries received by the BEA and eliminating those which failed to meet the award's standards.

Of those 440 entries, 296 entries made it through to the next stage. Each one was then carefully evaluated by the judging panel and discussed in a general panel meeting. The entries were whittled down to a maximum of five per award category, as well as a group of standout entries. In the third final stage, the panel convened one more time to go through the nominees for each category and vote on the winners for each category.

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Award categories: e-government, e-entertainment, e-health, e-learning, e-science, e-inclusion, e-business, e-culture, e-banking and e-media.

The number of participants in Bahrain eContent Award 09 are 399 entries in the various classifications. 296 qualified entries met all the award's standards.

Jury 09 Experience

Mr. Nawaf A. Al Rahman (the head of Technical and support committee) said the winners will be announced at a later stage of time, and extended his gratitude to everyone who contributed in making this year's BEA the best yet.

"Compared to previous years, the 2009 crop of entries was more sophisticated than ever in, especially in terms of eContent structure. The works we reviewed also demonstrate an increased awareness of eContent in general as indicated by the addition of two categories to the award this year," said Mr. Abdulrahman.

Similarly, the members of the judging panel expressed their satisfaction with the clear and organized judging methodologies, as well as observing the visible development of eContent in Bahrain as manifested by the diver-

BEA 09 Jury Share Opinions

The eGovernment Authority (eGA) held a formal dinner on Monday, 13th of January, which was attended by the Bahrain eContent Awards' (BEA) organizing committee and judging panel in appreciation of their efforts over the course of the three-day judging and evaluation process.

Drawing on his past involvement in similar events, Mr. Jack Boumans of Holland, who oversees judging in Bahrain, stated that evaluation criteria were on par with the award's status since they were based on input from all members of the panel and followed international standards.

Mr. Osama Manzar of India, responsible for the evaluation process, was impressed by the expertise of the members of the judging panel and the overall structure of the event which went a long way in ensuring that the various judging stages ran as smoothly as possible.

The judging panel also said they benefited tremendously by their involvement due to their varied areas of expertise in this multidisciplinary field, and were equally impressed by the level of sophistication in general. The panel recommended adding three more categories, eMedia, eBanking, and eMarketing, to the awards in the future was a step in the right direction as they will undoubtedly increase the number of potential participants significantly.



Nawaf Abdulrahman



Osama Manzar



Jak Boumans