

NEWS RELEASE

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Winners announced for TSA Crystal Awards 2013

At the prestigious International Telecare and Telehealth Conference gala dinner, the winners of the TSA Crystal awards 2013 were announced.

Now in their fourth year, the awards attracted entries from across the UK. The winners were selected across three categories:

Most creative application of technology including telecare, telehealth, telecoaching: Sandwell Telecare Assisting You (STAY) and Red Embedded Systems Ltd. This winning entry highlighted how the use of innovative video has supported individuals with learning disabilities. The award was collected by Alasdair Morrison, STAY and Adam Hoare, Red Embedded.

Enhancing Lives through technology enabled services: Peninsula Community Health

The entry from Peninsula Community Health was based around the design of a telehealth solution to address a healthcare crisis due to a high incidence of UTI infections in their locality. It outlined how the design of an innovative telehealth service, which took a service that was traditionally delivered by a GP or in a hospital setting, and redesigned it as a home based service, resulted in reductions in unnecessary illness and hospital admissions, as well as reduced costs. The award was collected by Dave Tyas on behalf of Peninsula Community Health.

Professional of the Year; Sarah Wyke, Stafford and Rural Homes

Sarah Wyke was nominated for this award which highlighted her ability as a strong, organisational leader who is passionate about their staff and service, as well as providing specific evidence of going above and beyond for customers. Sarah Wyke collected the award.

An overall winner was chosen who, the judges felt, signified the highest level of excellence across all three categories. The **Overall Winner for 2013** was: **Peninsula Community Health**. Dave Tyas, who picked up the award stated: "It was a great honour to receive two crystal awards on behalf of Peninsula Community Health. This is a testament to all of the hard work that the service has put in over the last few years. It not only recognises the work we have done on a specific area of telehealth, but everything that we have done with changing the way care can be delivered. It goes to show that when you think innovatively you can make a real difference to people's lives."

The winners were selected by an independent panel of judges from across the UK. The judging panel consisted of Rachel Cashman, NHS England; Professor George Crooks, NHS24 and SCTT, Scotland; Professor Jonathan Wallace, University of Ulster, Northern Ireland; Jackie Edwards, Wales and West Housing; Helena Herklots, Carers UK; Jim O'Donoghue, S3Group (guest judge as last year's overall winners) and Trevor Single, CEO, TSA

Trevor Single, Chief Executive, Telecare Services Association (TSA), stated: "The entries become stronger year on year, and reflect the growing breadth and quality of services and technologies available across the sector.

"These services and technologies are an essential part of ensuring our health and social care systems are able to cope with the increasing demands.

"TSA is proud to be the organiser of these awards, recognising and rewarding individual and organisational excellence. My fellow judges, who are experts in technology, service delivery, policy and strategy from across the UK, and I offer our heartfelt congratulations to all of this year's winners."

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Notes to Editors:

About TSA

Telecare Services Association (TSA) is the representative body for telecare and telehealth. It works with government, commissioners, suppliers and service providers in the development of telecare and telehealth strategy, and promotes the benefits of telecare and telehealth and related technology enabled services, which help individuals to maintain independence and better manage health issues at home. TSA is a lead partner in 3millionlives. TSA is the sector standards expert and has developed, and maintains, the Telecare and Telehealth Integrated Code of Practice – the only customer-centred code of practice available for these services. This independently audited Code was designed in the UK by telecare and telehealth experts and undergoes regular updates to remain current and relevant. For more information visit www.telecare.org.uk. Follow TSA: [@TeleServAssoc](https://twitter.com/TeleServAssoc)