'FITAG Leadership Awards' to felicitate Channel Partners of Gujarat

FITAG (Federation of Information Technology Association of Gujarat) will honour the channel partners of Gujarat at **Gandhinagar on Saturday, 18th September**. '**FITAG Leadership Awards - 2010'** in its first year intends to focus on Gujarat's hardware and networking industry by awarding partners excelling in Information & Technology. **Ravi Saxena, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Department of Science & Technology, Government of Gujarat will preside as Chief Guest** at the event expected to host over 700 channel partners from 24 cities of Gujarat. To recognize the best performers among its members, 'FITAG Leadership Awards' event will consist of keynote address by Chief Guest, Award Distribution, Entertainment and Networking Dinner.

A total of 30 awards (17 for partners in Metros and 13 for Non-Metro partners) in eight categories will be handed over to channel partners. All the short listed candidates will attend the award ceremony along with the office bearers and the invites. The objective of awards is to bring together the members of the associations and the people from the IT and Hardware industry together, said Kaushik Pandya, President, FITAG. "A total of 150 legitimate nominations from partner organizations who are members of the local associations have been short listed for the final selection of awards. The parent associations of the individual should be registered with FITAG,"he added.

FITAG is one of the largest state level IT federation of associations in India consisting of 2500 members spread across 24 cities of Gujarat. The main award categories are Best Distributor / Dealer Main Stream, System Integrator, Solutions, Services & Networking Partner, Software Solutions, Innovative Project, Best Retail Outlet, Best Distributor Peripherals/Accessories and Best Distributor Consumable & Media. "The Judging Panel will consist of CIO or IT director level executives from high profile organizations in Gujarat," he said.

In Metro Awards category, only four associations will be considered from Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Baroda and Surat. In Non Metro Awards categories, all the associations except the metro cities are considered. "The classification of awards across metros and non-metros separately ensures fair judgment for the award winners because the turnover demographics ,business model and relevant resources of IT is quite different in metros compared to non metros," said Pandya.

There are different numbers of awards across each category depending on the potential of that category or technology. Like Innovative Project can have only one winner across each – metro and non-metro as per Pandya. Innovative IT Project will be awarded to company who has involved in the launch / implementation of the most innovative IT project in Gujarat.

Besides awards for channel community of distributor and retailer, there are various categories to honor the systems integrator community of partners. Solutions, Services & Networking Partner award is for partner who provides Networking solution, other IT solutions as well as Services to customers. In Software Solutions category companies providing software solutions to all segment of customers - readymade as well as tailor-made will be acknowledged.

FITAG plans to make it an annual event after this year's inaugural edition of FITAG Leadership Awards. "The event is a persuasive combination of vision, entrepreneurial spirit and sound infrastructure which will help Gujarat to be positioned as one of the leading contributors to India's IT industry," said Pandya at FITAG.