

IMD/IRD Awards 2017: All the Winners and Why they Won

The Inside Market Data/Inside Reference Data Awards 2017 featured a total of 28 categories, the highlight of which was HSBC Securities' Chris Johnson receiving this year's hall of fame award.



HSBC Securities' Chris Johnson received this year's hall of fame award at the Inside Market Data/Inside Reference Data Awards 2017.

To win one award at the annual Inside Market Data and Inside Reference Data Awards—in either the categories voted for by readers or those decided by the judging panel of industry experts—is an achievement in itself. To win multiple awards in the same year—or to notch up consistent wins in the same category year after year—is a sign of true excellence.

In this year's awards, FactSet Research Systems unseated Bloomberg, winning the Best Market Data Provider (Vendor) award that Bloomberg has won every year since the inaugural awards in 2003. In addition, FactSet took home the Best Analytics Provider award that it also won last year.

In another display of excellence, SIX Financial Information scooped the prizes three categories: Best Corporate Actions Provider, which it won for the eighth year in a row; Most Innovative Regulatory Solution, for its Sanctioned Securities Monitoring

Service; and the Best Overall Data/Service Provider award, which was awarded based on a combination of the reader poll, submissions in judged categories, and other industry initiatives.

Other entrants notable for multiple wins were Thomson Reuters and SmartStream, picking up two awards apiece. Thomson Reuters won Best Reference Data Provider and Best Mobile Initiative for its Eikon Messenger on Mobile service, while SmartStream's Reference Data Utility won Best Reference Data Integration Vendor and Best Reference Data Initiative for the introduction of its Listed Derivatives Reference Data Service.

This year, we moved more categories from the reader poll segment to the judging panel segment of the awards. One reason is that it forces entrants to provide demonstrable metrics of success for the products and services they submit, and to articulate which regulations or market needs they address, and how.

With competition increasing in the data industry, with new services and new players coming to market, and with a host of market and regulatory pressures driving firms' strategic decisions, excellence has to be par for the course.