



ASSOCIATION OF TRAIN OPERATING COMPANIES

NOMINATIONS FOR 2011 NATIONAL CYCLE RAIL AWARDS NOW OPEN

Schemes, projects and individuals that have improved or encouraged greater use of combined cycle and rail travel will be recognised at this year's Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) National Cycle Rail Awards.

Now in their sixth year in this format, the awards celebrate the groundbreaking work being done by train companies, associated industry groups and individuals across the country to encourage integrated cycle-rail travel.

ATOC wants to encourage the greater use of cycles to access railways and train companies are constantly looking for ways to work with local individuals and groups to improve access, security, and information. By improving communication and the spread of best practice across the industry, the awards play a key role in working towards that aim.

Sponsored by Broxap, the awards will be held on 2nd November in the House of Commons Members' Dining Room in conjunction with the All Party Parliamentary Cycling Group, and will be attended by Ministers, MPs, Lords and key players from the cycle and rail industries.

This year there are eight categories, with the addition of one new award to recognise the benefits provided to cycle-rail integration by Station Travel Plans:

1. Best Customer Service (sponsored by Brompton Dock)
2. Best Local Government Scheme
3. Innovation (sponsored by First Group)
4. Cycling Champion
5. Station of the Year
6. Operator of the Year (sponsored by Cycle Pods)
7. Best Station Travel Plan Measure for Cycling
8. Partnership Working (sponsored by Abellio)

Conrad Haigh, ATOC's Integrated Transport Manager, said: "ATOC, its members and their industry partners are committed to increasing and improving cycle access to the railways. Thanks to several key developments in cycle provision by train companies and partners organisations in the last few years, many passengers are now benefitting from some first class cycling facilities at stations. I expect there to be some very interesting entries this year and I think the awards will be hard won against stiff competition.

"The Cycle Rail Awards are a key part of spreading best practice as they allow the industry to reward good provision for cyclists and to learn from the most successful examples. I urge train companies, local authorities and individuals to nominate any stand-out examples and help us improve the cycle-rail experience for everyone."

Application forms are available from ATOC by emailing cycle-railawards@ATOC.org, or by downloading from http://www.cyclerrail.com/images/generic/NCRA_entryform11.pdf. For more information on the awards, visit www.cyclerrail.com

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