Title   :   HBZ named as finalist for worldwide ComputerWorld Honors Program

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Habib Bank AG Zurich named as finalist for worldwide Computerworld Honors Program

Habib Bank AG Zurich (HBZ), one of the leading international banks operating in the United Arab Emirates, has been named as a finalist for the coveted 21st Century Achievement Award from the Computerworld Honors Program for its visionary use of information technology in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate category.

United Arab Emirates: Sunday, May 22 - 2005 at 09:21 GMT+4

Mr Reza Habib, Joint President, Habib Bank AG Zurich said, 'At the end of the day it is our customers and employees who win. The hPLUS technology that is recognised by this Computerworld Honors Program enables HBZ customers to benefit from greater service with security for their personal, corporate and trade accounts whilst empowering greater efficiencies within the banking environment. It allows over 100 user driven transactions & queries, greater control over funds and enables trading of U.S. capital markets in real time, from the comfort of our customer's home, office or while on the go with a smart phone or PDA over GPRS and 3G.'

Habib Bank AG Zurich was one of 162 laureates selected by the program's chairmen's Committee study from over 250 global nominations to submit a case study that officially became part of the prestigious Computerworld Honors Collection this past April when the 2005 Collection was formally presented to the Global Archives. Of these 162 laureates, Habib Bank AG Zurich is one of 5 finalists, in the Finance, Insurance & Real Estate category, chosen by an academy of 30 distinguished judges to attend the June 6 event.

The 21st Century Achievement medal

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'The Computerworld Honors 21st Century Achievement Awards are presented to organizations around the world who have made outstanding progress and whose visionary use of information technology produces and promotes positive social, economic and educational change,' said Bob Carrigan, president and CEO of IDG's Computerworld, the Voice of IT Management, and chairman of the Chairmen's Committee of the Computerworld Honors Program. 'The finalists for these awards along with the laureate innovators represented in the Honors Collection have been recognized by the leading IT industry chairmen as true revolutionaries in their fields.'

The 2005 Collection, which will be archived in libraries, museums and academic and research institutions around the world, will serve as primary source material for scholars and as a resource for individuals who hope to use information technology to create solutions to address their own challenges. The collection is comprised of case studies from 54 countries.

Case studies from the 2005 Computerworld Honors Collection will be available at http://www.cwheroes.org, the official site of the Computerworld Honors Program, where the entire Collection is available to scholars, researchers and the general public worldwide. In addition, the Collection is distributed annually to the Honors Program's Archival Partners around the world. These partners include some of the world's finest research and scholarly institutions, each of which has generously agreed to include the Collection in its archives.

According to Dan Morrow, a founding director and chief historian for the Honors Program, 'This year's finalists truly demonstrate how technology can significantly impact industries throughout the country. The accomplishments they have achieved through the use of technology are outstanding historical contributions to the information technology revolution in every sense of the word.'

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About Habib Bank AG Zurich
Habib Bank AG Zurich was established in 1967 on a solid foundation of banking tradition that spans several generations. Traditional banking values set in the context of international banking has determined Habib Bank AG Zurich's corporate philosophy - "Service with Security" - for over 38 years in operation. Providing trade finance, corporate, consumer, private, retail and correspondent banking products, the bank offers highly personalized service to its customers through its international network of over 50 branches. In addition to offering traditional banking products over a number of channels, HBZ's leading technology solutions allows its clients to manage their accounts and conduct real time transactions 24 hours a day world wide.
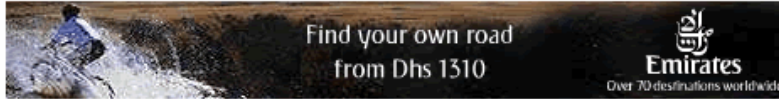
About the Computerworld Honors Program
Governed by the Computerworld Information Technology Awards Foundation, a Massachusetts not-for-profit corporation founded by International Data Group (IDG) in 1988, the Computerworld Honors Program searches for and recognizes individuals and organizations who have demonstrated vision and leadership as they strive to use information technology in innovative ways across 10 categories: Business and Related Services; Education and Academia; Environment, Energy and Agriculture; Finance, Insurance and Real Estate; Government and Non-Profit Organizations; Manufacturing; Media, Arts and Entertainment; Medicine; Science; and Transportation. Each year, the Computerworld Honors Chairmen's Committee nominates organizations that are using information technology to improve society for inclusion in the Computerworld Honors Online Archive and the Collections of the Global Archives. The Global Archives represents the 100-plus institutions from more than 30 countries that include the Computerworld Honors Collection in their archives and libraries.

Posted by Lara Lynn Golden, Assistant News Editor
Sunday, May 22 - 2005 at 09:21 UAE local time (GMT+4)

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