



North East
Better Health
at Work Award

Date: Tuesday 18th March

Embargo: calling note/for immediate release

Attention: Health, business and industrial correspondents and newsdesk editors

Local Employers providing Better Health at Work for 17,000 employees

This **Thursday (20th March)** representatives from local employers from the Tees Valley and surrounding areas will receive recognition of their organisation's success in achieving the North East Better Health At Work Award at a prestigious **Celebration Event held at the Riverside Stadium, Middlesbrough.**

The event is one of five being held across the whole of the north east region this month. Nearly 30 employers, covering almost 17,000 staff across Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, Stockton and Redcar & Cleveland achieved the Award in 2013 after passing the Assessment process and will be receiving their official certificates on the evening.

The North East Better Health At Work Award is a partnership between the 12 Local Authorities in the region, the Northern TUC and the NHS. It is open to all employers, from micro-businesses to large multinational enterprises. The Award has four levels; Bronze, Silver, Gold and Continuing Excellence - participating organisations begin at Bronze and work their way up through each level.

Each level has varying criteria, but the focus throughout is identifying what health issues staff would like to focus on (eg. cancer awareness, heart health, weight management and health eating, mental health issues) and then running subsequent health improvement campaigns to address the most requested. At the higher levels, organisations are required to



embed health and wellbeing into policies and protocols and promote health to workforce family and friends and within the wider community in general.

The campaigns/activities are organised and run by employee Health Advocates, who are people within the workplace who can play a vital role in supporting their colleagues to make healthy choices and improve their health. They offer confidential information and advice on any health and wellbeing issues from smoking cessation and weight loss to stress, anxiety, heart disease and everything in-between.

For more information on the Award visit www.betterhealthatworkne.org

Notes to Editors:

- Across the North East 152 employers, representing nearly 130,000 employees (more than 10% of the working age population of the region) participated in the Better Health At Work Award in 2013.
- More than 400 employers have participated in the Award since its inception.

Successful employers achieving the Award 2013:

- **Middlesbrough:**
Riverside ECHG Stages Academy – Bronze
Home Group – Bronze
Age UK Teesside - Continuing Excellence
- **Stockton:**
Catalyst Stockton – Bronze
Caterpillar Stockton – Bronze
Ineos Nitriles UK Ltd – Bronze
Sabic Innovative Plastics – Bronze
Cognition Media Ltd – Silver
Virgin Media Teesside – Gold
Stockton DWP benefit centre – Continuing Excellence
- **Hartlepool:**
EDF Energy (Hartlepool Power Station) – Bronze
Sallywags Childsplay Ltd – Silver
TATA Steel – Silver
Vela Group -Continuing Excellence
North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Trust – Continuing Excellence
Hartlepool Borough Council – Continuing Excellence
- **Redcar& Cleveland:**
Tesco Distribution Centre, Teesport – Bronze
Nunthorpe Academy – Bronze
Fabrick Housing Group – Bronze
CRI Redcar & Cleveland – Bronze
Sembcorp Utilities UK Ltd – Silver

Sabic UK Petrochemicals – Silver
DWP Middlesbrough Contact Centre – Silver
Cofely Fabricom – Gold
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council – Continuing excellence
Liberata UK - Continuing Excellence
Asda Import Centre – Continuing Excellence

Media Contacts:

For more information on the North East Better Health at Work Award in general contact

Susanne Nichol on T: 0191 227 5553 or snichol@tuc.org.uk