Press information

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Nucleus picks up prestigious Scottish Financial Services Award

Nucleus, the adviser built wrap platform, has won the Scottish Financial Services Award 2017 for leading the way in securing Scotland's future standing as a centre of excellence in platform development and asset servicing. The judges particularly highlighted Nucleus' highly innovative and customer focussed technology-based business model.

The platform, which was established in 2006 and now employs 180 people, allows financial advisers to combine clients' investments into a single, manageable online account. The company now has £13bn funds under management and 90,000 customers across the UK.

The Edinburgh-based firm is heavily involved in supporting the Scottish Financial Enterprise (SFE) FinTech strategy; with its Founder and Chief Executive, David Ferguson, appointed one of two Scottish FinTech envoys by HM Treasury last year, to champion the sector locally and globally.

Entrants are judged on their contributions to Scotland's standing as a financial centre, their long-term perspectives, the benefits for customers and their innovation and imagination. Over 600 guests attended last night's dinner in Edinburgh.

Presenting the awards, Sue Dawe, EY Partner and Head of Financial Services in Scotland, said:

"Scotland is one of the world's most exciting hubs for FinTech innovation and this year's winner of the Scottish Financial Services Award, Nucleus, is a shining example of the world-class capabilities we offer in this field.

"Scotland's enduring legacy as a leading financial centre will rely on our ability to successfully nurture the next generation of industry professionals. I am delighted this year we celebrate our first Rising Star Award winner who exemplifies all that is great about our industry today and is a symbol of the exciting future ahead for the sector.

"Congratulations to the winners and all of the finalists who make such a positive impact to our industry and our economy."

David Ferguson, Nucleus Financial Founder and Chief Executive, said:

"We're thrilled to collect this award and to achieve such great recognition from Scottish Financial Enterprise and the wider membership, especially against such a strong field. We're very grateful to the judges for acknowledging our work and we look forward to celebrating with the amazing people who have made Nucleus what it is today.

"We created Nucleus to put the customer centre stage and £13bn later, our highly skilled and passionate team are still giving it their all to make this happen. I'm immensely grateful for everyone who's helped us get to this point, and particularly for the wisdom of our late chairman, Paul Bradshaw, who would have loved this award but sadly passed away in January. We've always had very big plans for Nucleus and I'm sure this award will help nudge us along a little bit faster."

Jim Pettigrew, Scottish Financial Enterprise Chairman, said:

"Nucleus Financial are a thriving Scottish FinTech who have made a significant impact on the financial services landscape since they launched just over a decade ago. They are dedicated to helping the FinTech sector grow through innovation and are helping to ensure Scotland is a world-leader in our continuously evolving industry. Congratulations to everyone at Nucleus Financial on winning the Scottish Financial Services Award for 2017.

"SFE has proudly represented our strong and varied financial services industry for 31 years and I would like to thank all our members for their valuable contribution to our industry."

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For further information please visit <u>www.nucleusfinancial.com</u> or contact:

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About Nucleus

Nucleus is a wrap platform founded in 2006 by advisers committed to altering the balance of power in the industry by putting the client centre stage.

Since then, Nucleus has established itself as a major force for change. It is now one of the UK's fastest-growing platforms and the meeting point for more than 400 adviser firms in total seeking to create better customer outcomes.

As at 18 August 2017, assets under administration on the platform were £13.0bn.

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