



BUSINESS
MASTERS 2020

YORKSHIRE

#masters20

Welcome



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Yorkshire Editor

TheBusinessDesk.com

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Yorkshire Business Masters Awards and I'd like to start by thanking you all for joining us once again, all be it in a very different capacity this year, to celebrate the success of businesses across this region.

This is my first year involved with these awards and I'm pleased to say the quantity and calibre of entries was particularly high. It's important to mention this as it shows how competitive the region is and also the confidence that exists here for businesses to invest, grow and succeed.

This brings me on to a big thank you to our independent judging panel, who helped shortlist our fantastic finalists.

Finally, I hope you all enjoy tonight's celebration, cheer the winners loudly and take this opportunity to remember how fantastic Yorkshire's business community is.

Judging Panel



Diane Cheesebrough - Chairman and Non-Executive Director

Diane, a former BusinessDesk.com winner, moved into a plural Chairman and NED career in 2018. She is currently Chairman of PE backed LSP DA Languages, one of the 'Top 50 most exciting companies in Yorkshire' sales lead engine LiveLead, FM, high rise and event cleaning specialists Tudor Group, algorithm and transport innovators The Algorithm People, Dragon backed multi award winning Proxismart, and group NED on the privately owned NE Business Awards high growth winner Bloom Procurement Services.



Kishor Tailor - Chief Executive of Humber Local Enterprise Partnership

Kishor has the principle role of developing and delivering the strategy for growth of the Humber region. He is responsible for the management of the Humber LEP, its governance and funding, as well as lead responsibility for building and developing relationships with partners in the public and private sectors as well as with government departments.



Beckie Hart - CBI Director for Yorkshire and Humber

As the CBI's director for Yorkshire and the Humber, Beckie Hart is responsible for managing and developing relationships with a wide range of organisations and stakeholders in the region; recruiting new members to the CBI; and central and regional lobbying. In addition, Beckie and her team deliver a programme of policy and best practice events for CBI members and regional stakeholders. Beckie oversees the principal representative CBI body in the region, the Regional Council, and is the Co-Chair of the CBI National Manufacturing Council.



Mark Robson - Regional Director Yorkshire and Humber, Department for International Trade (DIT)

Mark is responsible for helping the region's firms identify and take advantage of business opportunities overseas. He is leading on encouraging more companies to export and looking at supply chains for the Northern Powerhouse team. Prior to joining DIT, Mark worked as international strategy manager for Yorkshire Forward (RDA) and International Trade Advisor at Business Link Humberside.

Newcomer

Crescent Virtual Assistant

Founded in July 2018 by Amy Russell, Crescent Virtual Assistant aims to provide a better, flexible way of working for businesses looking for additional support. In just 18 months the business has grown to have a team of seven, as well as providing self-employment options to other associate virtual assistants who require a more flexible working approach.

Lifestyle Flooring UK

Formed in April 2018, the firm sources flooring from across the UK and sells internationally online. Over the last two years the business has grown considerably and has moved to new premises. Looking ahead it plans to launch its own brand of flooring targeted at the designer and commercial market.

Meteoric Marketing

Established in Autumn 2018 by Angela Brown with a laptop, desk, phone, LinkedIn and a personal network, the firm now runs a satellite-agency business model; working with a network of local, trusted suppliers to bring the right skills, experience and resource at the right time (and the right price) for clients. The business benefitted when it joined Natwest's Accelerator programme, which provided access to the Leeds Accelerator Hub as a base, a new boarder network and a development coach which helped challenge Brown and the business.

Simply Video

Simply Video started in 2019 as a spin off to the award winning, telecoms providers "Yoozoom". It provides a collaborative video conferencing platform, which offers one-click meetings from any browser and features such as recording and screen sharing. Following extensive market research and the completion of a beta phase Simply Video is expecting substantial growth for 2020 driven by market demand and the products one-click solution and integration with Microsoft Teams.

Slanted Theory

Started in a living room Laura Smith & Mark Burkitt launched Slanted Theory in 2017 with a goal to visualise complex data, making it easier to read and discover insights for those that didn't have a scientific background. From there, ALAIRA, the company's unique 3D visualisation platform was born and has since caught the eye of global businesses on both sides of the Atlantic.

Essential Healthcare Solutions

Established in 1999 Essential Healthcare Solutions is dedicated to increasing the quality and efficiency of all care environments. Since 2013 the business has been developing a leading product range of mattresses that aims to optimise patient safety and comfort, while ensuring mattress longevity. The product was designed to help tackle pressure ulcers in the NHS which currently cost the health service around £1.4–£2.1 billion annually.

O&3 The Oil Family

O&3 – The Oil Family was set up in April 2018 to challenge convention in the natural oils industry, with a focus on the future. It has invested in a technical database to bring digital leadership to the industry and provide its clients with up-to-date product technical information, 24/7. It has also brought unique ingredients and blends to market and doubled its product range from 300 ingredients to over 600, working with 800 global clients.

Polypipe

Polypipe is one of Europe's largest manufacturers of piping, water and climate management systems. Founded in 1980 in Doncaster, the business was admitted to the London Stock Exchange in 2014. Recognising the twin challenges of managing water and carbon resources, it has invested for many years in our water management and carbon efficient solutions and has developed uniquely engineered water management products and systems to help combat the risk of flooding.

S2S Group

South Yorkshire-based S2S has 30 years of experience in corporate IT asset disposal, offering a wide range of services including both a secure disposal solution and re-use alternative. The firm has always strived to reduce waste to landfill, and is proud to now be a zero to landfill business. Lately it has invested in new systems to improve its service including Trakk-IT an online portal that enables customers to monitor their assets throughout the disposal or reuse process using the latest RFID technology, a process that is exclusive to S2S.

Tribosonics

Tribosonics has unique sensing technologies that generate data, enabling digitisation to create value and enhance sustainability in the transport, power generation and manufacturing industries. Over the last 12 months it has transformed its business model and at the same time disrupted the market, replacing a product catalogue with a technology and value-based engagement process, creating bespoke systems.

Leeds City Region / Channel 4

Leeds City Region orchestrated a collaborative effort alongside partners Screen Yorkshire to build a compelling case for Channel 4 to relocate its Nations and Regions headquarters to Leeds. Now the broadcaster has 120 people in the city and is preparing to move into the iconic Majestic development by early 2021.

Sevenhills Fabrication

SevenHills Fabrication started in 1926 as J A Wilkinson & Co, an artisan family tool-making business in Sheffield city centre with four employees and deliveries taken by bicycle. Since a management buyout in 2018 James Harding-Terry and his wife, Michelle, have been the sole owners of the company. It recently completed a £1.3m investment that has supported its growth and resulted in turnover doubling.

Sheffield Forgemasters

Tracing its history back to the 1750's through the famous Sheffield names of Vickers, Cammel Laird and Firth Brown, Sheffield Forgemasters provides casting and forging solutions for the world's most complex engineering challenges. It expects investment to reach new highs in 2020 with £20 million earmarked for plant and infrastructure over the next 12 months. The heavy investment into R&D, means the company has worked on emerging technological advancements in the field of civil nuclear power generation, particularly around Small Modular Reactor (SMR) design and manufacture.

Daval Furniture

Daval Furniture is a designer and manufacturer of quality fitted furniture based out of a 100,000sq ft. manufacturing facility based in Huddersfield. Founded in 1978 by husband and wife team, David and Alyson Bodsworth, it is still owned and managed by the family today. It recently invested £1.5m in software technology and machinery that has decreased material waste and reduced the time it takes to develop and market new products by approximately 50%. As a result it holds no stock of finished items but will work on a lead time of only three weeks from order to delivery.

Howarths

Established in 2003, Howarths is a family-run HR, employment law, health & safety and business immigration law consultancy for SMEs. In 2017 it established its own charity. The Howarth Foundation that connects people who have experienced homelessness with potential employers, supporting them throughout the process.

KPMG

KPMG is a global professional services firm which has had a presence in Yorkshire for over 50 years. The office has an active CSR team, which meets every fortnight, to discuss volunteering opportunities. In 2019, the office raised over £14,000 for the NSPCC. It also works with local organisation including Business in the Community, Lighthouse School Leeds, Ahead Partnership and All Saints Primary School.

Polypipe

Polypipe is one of Europe's largest manufacturers of piping, water and climate management systems Founded in 1980 in Doncaster, the business was admitted to the London Stock Exchange in 2014. It has a strong tradition of supporting local sports teams and also works alongside local schools in Doncaster to highlight the opportunities available.

Shine

Established in March 2006, Shine is a fully sustainable social enterprise based in the heart of one of the UK's most deprived neighbourhoods. It receives no government grants but rather operates as a commercial business with the mission to raise aspirations and create opportunities for individuals. It works to help female ex-offenders to reintegrate into society by offering a job that helps them secure a home for them and their children, as well as supporting other community projects.

The Works Recruitment

The specialist recruitment agency, Works Recruitment works in the commercial, industrial, engineering and built environment sectors. It considers contributing to the community core to its business culture and as such supports various charities and causes. The business particularly prides itself on supporting career education and aspiration at all levels through partnerships with Positive Footprints, Bradford Manufacturing Week, Leeds Manufacturing Festival. To date it has helped inspire more than 9,000 students.

Professional Services

Ramsdens Solicitors

Ramsdens Solicitors LLP is a Legal 500 recommended, Top 200, forward-thinking law firm, with its roots embedded in Yorkshire. The firm has driven strong financial performance throughout 2018/19 including two acquisitions in twelve months, which has supported its 10 year growth challenge and saw the business grow from 100 team members in 2009 across six offices to having 300 team members including 30 partners across 15 offices and 12 different practice areas.

Squire Patton Boggs

Recognised as one of the world's strongest integrated legal practices, Squire Patton Boggs provides insight at the point where law, business and government meet. It has been at the heart of advising businesses in Yorkshire for over 130 years and has access to more than 1,500 lawyers across 44 offices in 19 countries. It remains at the forefront of the Northern Powerhouse agenda and key initiatives supporting regional growth, particularly through our role in advising Leeds City Council on the Leeds City Region HS2 Growth Strategy, the UK's single largest planned investment in national infrastructure.

Whitecap Consulting

Whitecap Consulting is a regional strategy consultancy headquartered in Leeds, with offices in Manchester, Milton Keynes, Bristol, Newcastle and Birmingham. It typically works with boards, executives and investors of predominantly mid-sized organisations with a turnover of c£10m-£300m, helping them analyse, develop and implement growth strategies. Founded in 2012 it has continued to grow opening a Newcastle Office and Birmingham office over the last two years while also continuing to grow revenue by over 40% each year.

Harworth

Harworth Group plc is a FTSE 500 company and one of the largest land and property regeneration companies across the North of England and the Midlands, owning and managing c.20,500 acres on around 120 sites.

Muse

Muse Developments is one of the UK's leading lights in mixed-use development and urban regeneration. Working in partnership to combine the best that the public and private sector has to offer, in order to transform the urban landscape and breathe new life into areas that need regenerating. The company is outperforming its peers and has an order book and forward development pipeline now stands at £2.2 billion.

Touchstone Education

Touchstone Education was founded in 2014 by Paul and Aniko Smith, self-made property investors with a portfolio in excess of £10m. Based in Doncaster with 34 employees, the firm runs training events across the country to support future property entrepreneurs. To date the business has helped over 1,000 people in Yorkshire achieve success and is predicting a turnover growth of 62% for 2020.

Banwait Group Holdings

Banwait Group Holdings Limited is a Wakefield based family business that was incorporated in July 2018. The group owns and operates award winning, fully compliant residential care homes for the elderly in Yorkshire via Strong Life Care Limited, while its property division, Real Estate Investments Group Limited owns several commercial investment properties on long term FRI leases to blue chip tenants.

O&3 The Oil Family

O&3 – The Oil Family was set up in April 2018 to challenge convention in the natural oils industry, with a focus on the future. They're a next generation of natural oils suppliers run by two sisters and a brother. Since 2018 they've grown and work with over 800 clients globally with a 600 strong product range and plans to double turnover in 2020.

Sevenhills Fabrication

SevenHills Fabrication started in 1926 as J A Wilkinson & Co, an artisan family tool-making business in Sheffield city centre with four employees and deliveries taken by bicycle. Over the years it grew, ending up on the Holbrook Industrial Estate where it exists today, employing 45 staff but still working as a family run business. A management buyout in 2018 saw James Harding-Terry and his wife, Michelle, become sole owners of the company. Since then they have re-structured the business to focus on growth, development and sustainability, resulting in turnover doubling.

Speed Quizzing

York-based tech company SpeedQuizzing is behind an industry leading app and online quiz platform that's revolutionising the pub quiz, driving footfall, sales and fun in pubs all over the UK and farther afield. Officially launched in 2011, SpeedQuizzing's interactive online quiz platform is used to host and play quizzes in over 1,000 pubs every week in the UK and further afield. These range from small village pubs with a handful of teams, to large bars with up to 400 players. Outside of the UK, SpeedQuizzing is regularly played in over 25 countries, including the USA, New Zealand, Australia and India.

Tudor International Freight

Tudor is an independent, international award-winning logistics specialist based in Leeds. They work with businesses across the UK to deliver bespoke solutions to their international logistics requirements and provide a worldwide excess baggage service for individuals to thousands of destinations around the world.

Small Business

OTTY Sleep

Founded in 2016, OTTY Sleep is a leading boxed mattress retailer led by CEO Michal Szlas. The 26-year old entrepreneur started the company with the mission to become the world's leading sleep brand. It's team of nine combines innovative technology with tried and trusted materials to create the perfect mattress at an affordable price.

SimpleUsability

SimpleUsability is a unique and innovative behavioural research and user experience consultancy, founded in 2001. Since 2018 it has seen consistent growth having secured a £50,000 contract with Coca-Cola which has resulted in further work with the global brand. Alongside household name the firm also works with start-ups such as Business Masters alumni Vet-AI.

The Technology Group

The Technology Group is an independent and privately-owned communications business. Headquartered in Leeds with offices in London, York and Welwyn Garden City, it's team hosts business telephony, internet and mobile communications for more than 950 customers across 24 countries, managing four million minutes of voice traffic every month.

The Data Shed

The Data Shed is one of the fastest growing tech firms in Yorkshire, having doubled its headcount each year for the last three years. The firm founded in 2015 by CEO Anna Sutton and CTO Ed Thewlis, specialises in data integration and analytical projects for clients including TATE galleries group, Hermes, Qantas and Friends of the Earth.

Yorkshire Payments

Yorkshire Payments provides over 3,500 small and medium-size businesses with affordable ways to process card payments. The businesses, established in 2013 by managing director, James Howard, operates from its head office in Brighouse, where a team of 36 people help firms process more than £480 million in card transactions over the last 12 months.

Medium Business



Crisp

Crisp is a social media safety and crisis monitoring firm established in 2005 by online gaming and social media entrepreneur Adam Hildreth, whose technology is used by some of the world's largest, most well-known brands including Disney and Coca-Cola.

Fleetondemand

Fleetondemand provides cutting-edge software to many of the world's largest fleet operators, and powers thousands of business journeys every day across Europe. In addition to this it is the parent of Mobbileo, the world's first business Mobility-as-a-Service platform, that was founded in 2018.

Harworth

Harworth Group plc is a FTSE 500 company and one of the largest land and property regeneration companies across the North of England and the Midlands, owning and managing c.20,500 acres on around 120 sites.

Sewtec

Sewtec works for global blue-chip clients in the pharmaceutical, personal care, pet care, food and beverage and tobacco industries to design, manufacture, install and commission complex industrial automation systems. It exports almost 85% of sales to 20 international markets and has undergone a transformational change following a successful management buyout in 2017 backed by Leeds private equity firm Endless.

SmartSearch

SmartSearch is a pioneer in electronic-based Anti-Money-Laundering (AML) screening. Fourteen years ago, in response to the 2004 Money Laundering Regulations and the increasingly sophisticated money laundering techniques being employed by fraudsters, SmartSearch's executive team created one of the very first electronic AML verification services.

FMG

FMG is national business specialising in 24-hour incident management and roadside repair and recovery management services. Based in Huddersfield it operates on behalf of blue-chip companies and well-known brands, including most of the UK's top ten vehicle leasing providers and the largest motor insurers and brokers. It is also the partner of choice for Highways England and several UK Police Forces.

Polypipe

Polypipe is one of Europe's largest manufacturers of piping, water and climate management systems. Founded in 1980 in Doncaster, the business was admitted to the London Stock Exchange in 2014. With an established market position in the UK and selected markets internationally its focus on constant innovation, research and development mean the business is uniquely placed to offer solutions to the pressures placed on urban environments and natural resources.

Premier Technical Services

Premier Technical Services Group Ltd (PTSG) is one of Europe's leading providers of specialist services to the construction and facilities management sectors. Since the company was formed in 2007, it has achieved year-on-year growth in each of its core market sectors.

Sheffield Forgemasters

Tracing its history back to the 1750's through the famous Sheffield names of Vickers, Cammel Laird and Firth Brown, Sheffield Forgemasters provides casting and forging solutions for the world's most complex engineering challenges. The firm's senior management team has been in position for just over a year and the company now has its highest ever order book. It has invested heavily in R&D and is now at the forefront of emerging technological advancements in the field of civil nuclear power generation.

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Hortor

Founded in 2014, Hortor is a global strategic resourcing consultancy which has grown year-on-year. With UK headquarters in Leeds and a presence in London, Hortor also has employees in Costa Rica, Kuala Lumpur, Los Angeles, Bratislava, and plans to further expand into other overseas markets. It works across a range of industries including IT and telecoms, financial services, government, consultancy, retail and utilities.

Premier Technical Services Group (PTSG)

Premier Technical Services Group Ltd (PTSG) is one of Europe's leading providers of specialist services to the construction and facilities management sectors. Since the company was formed in 2007, it has achieved year-on-year growth in each of its core market sectors: access and safety, electrical services, building access specialists, and fire solutions. It has kept to the same successful business model since it started, combining organic and acquisitive growth resulting in considerable growth over the last 12 years.

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Ambassador of the Year

Ambassador is the individual who has made an outstanding contribution either in leading their business or in representing the region or their sector on a bigger stage.

The winner of this award will be announced this evening.

Thank you for attending Business Masters Yorkshire 2020!

Sponsors



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