

Running the Gauntlet

tp24 Managing Director, Shaun Davis, has taken the company to new heights by entering the “Running The Gauntlet” competition, run by the East of England Development Agency (EEDA).

'Running the gauntlet' is an investment competition and education programme which has helped over 1,100 East of England entrepreneurs, many in the technology sector, since it began in 2005. Over 300 companies registered this year and 50 were short-listed. tp24 were delighted to be included in the final ten and were praised for their dedication and commitment to ensuring a greener future and answering the needs of the new build industry with regards to lighting.

The competition provides a valuable, comprehensive education programme covering many aspects that an entrepreneur needs - it helps both to define and refine an entrant's business proposition. Networking is a key feature of the competition and at various stages of the programme entrants mix with angel and venture capital investors and develop contacts that will benefit them as their businesses move forward.

The opportunity to test the impact of the learning programme occurred on 25 September at Judgement Day when entrants pitched to a panel of investors chaired by Doug Richard.

Doug Richard, chairman of Library House, and the competition's investor panel said: "The access to investors and the wealth of support that EEDA and the partner organisations are offering here is outstanding. Money can't buy this kind of help

when you need it and it's all being made freely available through 'running the gauntlet'. These companies can't lose. If they act on the advice and stay focused I feel confident there will be more successes to come out of this year's competition over the next 6 - 12 months."

"Entrepreneurs are risk-takers who make money by thinking outside the box. Our ten finalists have shown that by grasping the opportunities offered by this programme they have been able to develop in a way that attracts investors' attention. However, they need to show a continued hunger for success if they are to secure the funding on offer."

Richard Ellis, EEDA's chairman said:

"The 'running the gauntlet' programme is all about enhancing the investment prospects of our region's entrepreneurs. This year's finalists demonstrated just how much they have gained from this competition with partnerships forged, networks developed and funding routes identified. We are proud to have been able to help them and look forward to helping them further in the future."



- Ends -

Written by Debbie Davis 10/12/07

Editors' Notes

Image attached showing Shaun Davis, tp24's Managing Director after being presented with "Running the gauntlet" trophy.

Photographs of products available on request.

More about tp24

tp24 are world leaders in the design, development and manufacture of low energy lighting. Their core business is providing quality lighting packages to new homebuyers through builders. tp24 provide a complete service for the builder making lighting the easiest optional extra to sell.

For further information please contact:

Liz MacGregor, Marketing Manager

Direct dial telephone: 01354 691327, e-mail: lm@tp24.com