

National Cycle-Rail Awards

Monday 10 July 2006

ATOC launches National Cycle-Rail Awards 2006

The Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) is calling for cyclists, cycling clubs, train and station operators, local authorities and travel information providers throughout the country to nominate the best examples of integrated rail and cycling initiatives for the 2006 National Cycle-Rail Awards.

The ATOC National Cycle Rail Awards 2006 recognise the best stations, people, services and facilities for cyclists at or around railway stations in Britain.

ATOC have been the awards' overall sponsors for three years. The 2006 programme will also have a category sponsored by Cycling England and is supported by the CTC and Sustrans.

There are 6 categories for which the judges will be seeking nominations and entries:

- Customer Service Excellence
- Best Local Government Contribution
- Most Innovative Approach to Cycle/Rail Integration
- Best Information Provision
- Best Cycle Parking Provision
- The People Award

In addition there will be two overall categories; winners will be decided at the judges' discretion:

- Train Operator of the Year
- Station of the Year

The entry deadline for the awards will be Tuesday 12 September 2006.

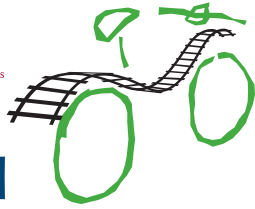
George Muir, ATOC's Director General, said: "We are delighted to support the National Cycle-Rail Awards and to work with colleagues from rail, cycling and associated organisations to recognise the progress being made, while acknowledging that there is still work to be done.

"Our aim is to encourage the carriage of bikes on trains and to stations and to recognise the people and ideas that are making this integration happen. In so doing, we are encouraging more passengers on to the railway and offering an acceptable and healthy alternative to the car."

Full details about the awards together with an entry form can be found on the award's website www.cyclerrail.co.uk

The awards ceremony will take place on the morning of Tuesday 24 October 2006 at the Novotel, London Euston.

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Note to editors:

Full details of the awards can be found on the awards' website: www.cyclerrail.co.uk

If you have any questions about the awards please contact Vicky Ungless at Woodhouse Communications
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If you have any questions about the Association of Train Operating Companies, please contact Jane Rowe at
ATOC on 020 7841 8022

About ATOC

The Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC) is the official voice for the passenger rail industry - representing train companies to the government and other opinion formers on transport policy issues. Britain's train operators are working together to change rail travel for the better.

ATOC manages many joint activities for train operators including revenue allocation and settlement, impartial retailing, National Rail Enquiries, Railcard marketing, staff travel arrangements, international products and travel agent licensing.

About Cycling England

Cycling England is a new national body which co-ordinates the development of cycling across England. Cycling England aims to create the conditions that will result in more people cycling, more safely, more often.

Cycling England was launched by the Minister for Local Transport in March 2005 and replaces the previous National Cycling Strategy Board. It is supported by a group representing a number of government departments, including health, education, planning and sport as well as transport.

About CTC

CTC is the UK and Ireland's largest and longest established national cycling membership organisation. It was founded in 1878 as the Bicycle Touring Club, subsequently becoming the Cyclists' Touring Club. In 2003 CTC celebrated 125 years of working for travelling, recreational and utility cycle users. The CTC is the forerunner of the world wide network of cycling, motoring and tourism organisations, many of whom based their services on CTC's.

About Sustrans

Sustrans is the UK's leading sustainable transport charity. Our vision is a world in which people can choose to travel in ways that benefit their health and the environment. Every day we are working on practical, innovative ways of dealing with the transport challenges that affect us all.

