

# Province bestows kudos for export, innovation 🇨🇦

## Awards

The Telegram



Trade Minister Trevor Taylor (2nd from right) poses with winners at the 2008 Export and Innovation Awards at the Fairmont Hotel in St. John's Friday. The winners were Kent Sargent of BlueLine Innovations (left), Susan Kennedy of C-CORE and Art Garland of Orphan Industries Ltd. — Photo by Gary Hebbard/The Telegram

The provincial government recognized businesses at the 2008 Export and Innovation Awards on Friday.

The 23rd annual awards had a youthful tone, acknowledging two university groups with awards of merit.

Trevor Taylor, minister of innovation, trade and rural development, said that businesses that work with students foster the future of the province.

"Of particular importance here today is the youth representation," said Taylor, who presented the awards. "I would encourage you, as I've done in the past, to reach out to our talented students; they are our future."

The ceremony also presented awards for innovation in business, distinction in innovation and exporter of the year. This was the first year for the innovation in business and distinction in innovation awards.

"Anytime you can export, it's money coming in. It's the economy, you're employing people," said Art Garland, the president of Orphan Industries which won the exporter of the year. He said that exporting is becoming more difficult with the strong Canadian dollar, but for smart companies, the future looks good.

Blue Line Innovations won the Innovation in Business Award; the Distinction in Innovation award was won by C-CORE.

The two student groups that were recognized were the ACE Memorial and Eastern Edge Robotics groups.

ACE Memorial is a MUN group which works to support entrepreneurship in the province. For the past two years it has

won the national title and represents Canada at the Free Enterprise World Cup.

The Eastern Edge Robotics team competes builds underwater remotely operated robots.

The team has finished in the top three in competition every year since 2003, beating out schools like Waterloo and MIT .

"Newfoundland and Labrador is earning a global reputation for excellence in innovation," Taylor said. "Today's event is a means of formally acknowledging this excellence."