

Press release

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HURST Chairman nominated for prestigious award

ACCOUNTANCY firm HURST is celebrating after its chairman Mark Mills has been shortlisted for the Non-Executive Director (NED) awards 2011 for the Unquoted/Private Equity Backed category.

North west entrepreneur Mark, is the founder of independent cash machine network Cardpoint Plc and became HURST chairman in 2010. He is also the chairman of sales and marketing company Tactical Solutions, Garside and Laycock, a building maintenance company and renewable start up Genwat.

He also has his own start up company, Violet, a recruitment business for Recruitment of Female Non Executive Directors and Women Board Members.

Mills was appointed to the role at HURST to steer the firms growth and help realise the firm's aim to increase fee income to £10m within three years, something HURST is on track to achieve.

The sixth Annual Non Executive Director Awards recognise the achievements of outstanding NEDs. Established by Peel Hunt in 2006, previous NED Award winners have included some of Britain's most respected and experienced business professionals. Last year's winners included Barbara Scott from Bexley NHS Trust and Mary Francis from Centrica.

In its first quarter in 2011, HURST achieved a year on year rise in turnover of ten per cent.

Tim Potter, managing partner at north west based accountancy firm HURST said:

"Mark has made significant contributions to HURST's strategy, impacting on our success and helping us realise our ambitions. We benefit from his expertise as a top entrepreneur and his hands-on approach to securing new clients. You won't find a more deserved nominee than Mark. We wish him luck."

Simon Hayes, CEO Peel Hunt said:

"The annual NED awards celebrate the vital contribution NEDs make to the success of some of the UK's leading organisations.

“Peel Hunt believes the appointment of a high calibre NED does much more than satisfy governance requirements, especially in difficult economic times like these. They provide a genuinely unique perspective built on experience and independence that helps to improve performance, accountability and directly influences the bottom line.”

The Unquoted/Private Equity Backed category celebrates none executives who have unified boardsa, delivered shareholder value and faced strategic challenges.

The winners will be announced in March 2012.

HURST has also been named a finalist in The British Accountancy Awards 2011 following a record year. The firm has three offices in Manchester, Stockport and London. It has 80 members of staff and 13 partners.

www.hurst.co.uk

www.nedawards.co.uk

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