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Emerson, CRN Present Critical Difference Partner Awards

CRN Network, August 3, 2012, 1300 hrs

India's six leading system integrators were honored with the Critical Difference Partner 2012 awards at the recently concluded CRN Leadership Summit 2012 (CLS) in Goa.

Instituted jointly by CRN and Emerson Network Power, the Critical Difference Partner Awards aim to recognize and honor systems integrators who excel at providing end-to-end data center solutions, that include not just the core compute and network infrastructure but also the design and integration of power and cooling solutions, and the lifecycle management services.

The winners are listed in the alphabetical order and not in the order of importance:

Allied Digital Services: For the project that involved remodelling of HDFC Life's existing data center into a private cloud and migrating existing applications to the cloud.

Ashtech Infotech: For the project at Adani Group in Ahmedabad that involved the re-architecture and re-location of existing tier-1 data center to tier-3, scalable to meet the IT requirements of the company for the next five years.

Choice Solutions: For the project at NABARD, Mumbai, where the system integrator consolidated and virtualized the existing server and storage infrastructure into a 700 sq ft data center deploying energy savings and management as per Uptime Institute matrix.

Compton Business Solutions: For the 3,000 sq ft tier-3 data center at Century Communication for the customer's post-production facility in Chennai.

Network Techlab: For the new tier-3 data center at Just Dial, Mumbai, to manage the customer's growing business.

Pentagon Systems and Services: For a turnkey tier-3 data center project for a leading financial institution (name withheld due to NDA). The data center solution had complex and hybrid power and cooling requirements, and also involved integrating legacy and new technologies from different vendors.

"With consolidation, virtualization and concepts like private cloud taking centre stage, data centre design and technology is witnessing paradigm shift. The density of data centre is increasing, while energy and space is becoming scarce. Redundancy, uptime and green technologies are taking precedence. As a result, the role of the partner in providing end-to-end data centre solution from design to integration has become the key. Hence, we decided to institute this award along with CRN," said Ankesh Kumar, Director, Channel Products & Marketing, Emerson Network Power.

Said Dhaval Valia, Associate Publisher & Executive Editor, CRN, "Data center is the core to a customer's IT infrastructure. Hence, its fitting to honor and recognize the system integrators who have delivered the best data centers to their customers not just from the perspective of the core compute and network infrastructure but also from the view point of power and cooling solutions and lifecycle services."

The winners of the Critical Difference Partner Awards 2012 were decided based on an open nomination process, where system integrators were invited to nominate their best data center project in the past 12-18 months.

CRN received 35 nominations, which were shortlisted to 15 by the CRN editorial team and referred to a jury consisting of industry experts.

The jury consisted of Mandar Marulkar, Associate VP, Head IT and CISO, KPIT Cummins; Anwer Bagdadi, Founder & CEO, Kashif Technology & Innovation; and Pratik Chube, General Manager, Product Development & Marketing, Emerson Network Power.

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The six SIs received the honor at a scintillating awards ceremony on July 26, coinciding with CLS 2012, attended by over 110 leading system integrators and enterprise VARs from across the country, and over 130 leading vendor managers.

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