



Branded Payment Solutions and Newcastle Building Society triumph again at Prepaid Awards 2009

Branded Payment Solutions (BPS) and Newcastle Building Society last night scooped the award for Best Prepaid Programme Manager, at the second annual Prepaid Awards 2009, held at the Sheraton Park Lane hotel in London.

The awards are designed to recognise organisations that are driving the prepaid sector forward and BPS/Newcastle beat off stiff competition to win this accolade, demonstrating their success in prepaid products.

Branded Payments Solutions delivers an end-to-end prepaid programme solution to all its B2B clients across Europe, ensuring a real and lasting return on investment, coupled with state of the art proprietary technology and extensive product knowledge. BPS/NBS also won the 2008 Best Prepaid Programme Award for having concurrently rolled out a comprehensive open loop programme in multiple European countries with different currencies.

Tim Murphy, CEO of BPS stated: "We very much appreciate being awarded "Best Programme Manager" in recognition of our success in creating solutions for our clients across Europe. This award underscores the BPS hallmark of partnering with NBS and clients to ensure a rewarding result over the long term".

Kriya Patel, Head of Card Solutions at Newcastle Building Society, says:

"We are delighted to be recognised at this year's Prepaid Awards. Winning the award for Best Prepaid Programme Manager is a huge achievement and is the result of

continued partnership with BPS to establish and promote a steadfast programme to our clients.

“This is the second year we have won an award at this event and we hope that this trend is set to continue for many years to come.”

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Notes to Editors:

About Newcastle Building Society

Newcastle Building Society is the biggest building society based in the North East and one of the strongest mutual building societies in the country. With assets under management of over £4.8bn we are certainly large enough to cope but small enough to care deeply about the needs of our members. We are committed to providing a range of innovative and attractive products. www.newcastle.co.uk

The Newcastle Building Society is committed to remaining mutual and by doing so we feel we are better placed to continue to provide our investors with the quality of service expected from one of the country's strongest building societies.