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Top International Agencies Awarded at IABC Gold Quill Gala

SAN FRANCISCO – The International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) announced the most highly awarded agencies and communication teams in the world at the 2015 IABC Gold Quill, during their Gala in San Francisco in June.

This was the first year the organization has presented the “agency/team of the year” level achievements. These awards recognize the excellent work submitted by an agency or organization, and the winners were selected using a combined score based on the number of Gold Quill winning entries and highest scores by entrants in each category. Submissions from all over the world were gathered, reviewed and judged against the IABC’s high standards of communication excellence.

Winner of the **Boutique Agency of the Year** (five or fewer employees), was Sinickas Communications, Inc. An international communication consultancy based in Lake Forest, California, Sinickas Communications helps corporations measure the business impact of their communications. Angela Sinickas has been measuring the effectiveness of communications since 1981. She is a pioneer in the field of organizational communication measurement, an IABC Fellow and a recipient of 20 Gold Quill awards.

SimplyConnectConsulting, LLC took home the title for **Small Agency of the Year** (six to 20 employees). Specializing in solving business problems that involve employee engagement, finding new connections and internal communication, the Dallas, Texas, agency has garnered over 80 communication awards since it opened its doors in 2010.

The **Mid-Size Agency of the Year** (21-50 employees) award went to ROC Group. ROC is a leading-edge communications and engagement firm blending mass marketing and individual behavior change to help client organizations reach and impact their employees, leaders and internal stakeholders. Specialties range from enterprise-wide change management (such as mergers, acquisitions, systems implementation and process redesign) to detailed HR programs (such as wellness, health care, retirement and corporate plans).

Global consultancy Buck Consultants at Xerox won **Large Agency of the Year** (51 or more employees). The firm has more than 1,500 employees and affiliates in nearly 200 global locations, specializing in HR benefits, human resource consulting and employee engagement. Their focus is on using the right messages to engage employees so they get the most from their career, health and wealth programs.

Corporate Communication Department of the Year was won by UPS. As the world’s largest package delivery company and a global leader in logistics, UPS offers a broad range of transportation, trade, and technology solutions to more efficiently manage the world of business.



International Association of Business Communicators

Finally, **Not-for-Profit Communication Department of the Year** went to the Alberta Cancer Foundation in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Through their bold investment model, this innovative philanthropy drives progress by investing in leading-edge cancer research and care to make a difference in the lives of Albertans facing cancer.

More information about Gold Quill is available at gq.iabc.com.

Entry dates and deadlines for the 2016 program will be announced in the coming weeks.

About IABC

The International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) enables a global network of communicators working in diverse industries and disciplines to identify, share, and apply the world's best communication practices. IABC is recognized as the professional association of choice for communicators who aspire to excel in their chosen fields. For more information, visit www.iabc.com.

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