Dubai – With more than 500 of the region’s most influential ICT leaders in attendance, the IDC Middle East CIO Summit 2020 closed last week with a ceremony to mark the third annual edition of the IDC Digital Excellence Awards. The awards were designed specifically to recognize the efforts of the Middle East's foremost ICT pioneers in conceptualizing and successfully delivering game-changing digital transformation projects and initiatives.

"As competition intensifies and industries continue to be disrupted, the time has come for organizations to make the strategic, organizational, technological, and financial decisions required to drive them to digital excellence," says Jyoti Lalchandani, IDC's group vice president and managing director for the Middle East, Turkey, and Africa. "Tough calls are required to spearhead a holistic process that aligns digital initiatives, technologies, and roadmaps across the entire organization. A single enterprise strategy that crosses all business and functional areas is an absolute must, and the Middle East is home to numerous organizations that are now leading the way in this regard."

Nominations were open across 4 categories and IDC received over 130 submissions. Following an intensive interview process with senior IDC analysts, IDC's CIO Advisory Council for the Middle East reviewed the shortlisted nominations to declare the winners and finalists for each category as follows:

CIO of the Year

Winner: Mohammed AlEnazi, Fawaz A. Alhokair & Co.

Finalists: Dr. Zakareya Ahmed Al-Khajah, Information & eGovernment Authority (Bahrain); Praful Thummar, Jazeera Airways; Jayakumar Mohanachandran, Precision Group.
CISO of the Year

Winner: Illyas Kooliyankal, Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank

Finalists: Tushar Vartak, RAKBANK; Khalid Waheed Abdulrahman, Al Baraka Banking Group

Excellence in Line-of-Business Transformation

Winner: Sultan Abukoshaim, Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization (SASO)

Finalists: Krishnan Gopi, GEMS Education; Alya Hussain AlZarouni, Dubai International Financial Centre

Excellence in Digital Innovation

Winner: Enova

Finalists: Petrofac; Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC); Abu Dhabi Customs

IDC would like to thank the following esteemed members of the CIO Advisory Council for being part of the judging process:

- H.E. Wessam Al Abbas Lootah, CEO, Smart Dubai
- Eng. Ali Nasser Alsiri, CEO of eGovernment Program (YESSER), Saudi Arabia
- Ahmed Al Mulla, Former Executive Vice President of Corporate Services, Emirates Global Aluminum
- Fuad Al Ansari, Vice President of Information Technology, ADNOC Refining
- Dr. Salim Al Ruzaiqi, CEO, Ministry of Technology and Communications, Oman
• Brig. Khalid Nasser Al Razooqi, General Director of Artificial Intelligence, Dubai Police
• Jason Roos, CIO, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology

IDC’s valued partners for the IDC Middle East CIO Summit 2020 include: Host Partner – IBM; Strategic Partner – Dubai Internet City; ICT Partner – Ministry of Technology & Communications (Oman), Summit Partners – Riverbed and VMware; Digital Transformation Partner – Injazat, A Mubadala Company; Artificial Intelligence Partners – Intel, Salesforce, and UiPath; Future-of-Work Partners – Citrix and SAP; Technology Session Partners – Veeam, HCL Technologies, OpenText, Micro Focus, SentinelOne, FireEye, Rackspace, Blue Prism, IBM, OutSystems, and Hitachi Vantara; Industry Partners – Equinix, OpenText, Commvault, Intel, and IBM; Exhibit Partners – Mimecast, Freshworks, Symphony SummitAI, T2, CommScope, Qlik (in partnership with SquareOne Technologies), Jabra, Dropbox, Gulf Bridge International (GBI), Rimini Street, MDSap, ManageEngine, eHosting DataFort (in partnership with Software AG), TÜV Rheinland, and Datamato; Dinner Partner – DETASAD.

For more information about the IDC Middle East CIO Summit 2020, please visit www.idcciosummit.com/dubai. You can also search for news or
tweet about the Summit using the hashtag #IDCMECIO.

About IDC

International Data Corporation (IDC) is the premier global provider of market intelligence, advisory services, and events for the information technology, telecommunications, and consumer technology markets. With more than 1,100 analysts worldwide, IDC offers global, regional, and local expertise on technology and industry opportunities and trends in over 110 countries. IDC's analysis and insight helps IT professionals, business executives, and the investment community to make fact-based technology decisions and to achieve their key business objectives. Founded in 1964, IDC is a subsidiary of IDG, the world's leading technology media, research, and events company. To learn more about IDC, please visit www.idc.com. Follow IDC on Twitter at @IDC.

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these dynamic regions. Our market intelligence services are unparalleled in depth, consistency, scope, and accuracy. IDC Middle East, Africa, and Turkey currently fields over 130 analysts, consultants, and conference associates across the region. To learn more about IDC MEA, please visit www.idc-cema.com. You can follow IDC MEA on Twitter at @IDCMEA.

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