

08 June 2008

Sodexo Prestige enjoys winning Stadium Experience

Sodexo Prestige, the UK's largest event caterer and provider of hospitality packages, enjoyed a winning streak at the Stadium Experience Official Football Hospitality Awards 2008, as its employees from three top football venues were recognised in nine categories.

The team at Everton FC, where Sodexo Prestige provides catering and hospitality services, were delighted to beat fellow nominated clubs, including Arsenal, Newcastle and Chelsea, to the Directors' Choice award for match day hospitality in the Premiership; as voted for by directors from Premiership clubs who dined in the boardroom during away matches.

Head chef Gareth Billington scored a bronze for the Everton team in the Chef of the Year Award, with his main course of Gourmet Scouse. A prime cut of Knowsley estate lamb on wild mushroom and kidney faggot, with root vegetables and lamb and red currant jus, the regional dish is a favourite with guests in the club boardroom, reflecting Sodexo Prestige's commitment to using locally sourced produced wherever possible.

Fine dining wasn't the only area of Sodexo Prestige's service to be rewarded, as public catering assistant Marianne Rood took home a silver Special Achievement Award for aiding an Everton fan who had suffered a diabetic fit, and sales manager Ged Janssen collected a Certificate of Achievement for her consistently successful sales initiatives at the club.

Everton added to its tally on the score sheet with a Certificate of Achievement in the overall Matchday Hospitality Experience Award, decided by a panel of professional chef judges who scored 18 UK clubs on criteria ranging from parking access, signage and welcome, to food quality and standards of service over a period of six months.

Sodexo Prestige chefs from both Everton and Hampden Park Stadium in Glasgow were happy to share a bronze in the Chef Team of the Year Award.

Sodexo Prestige at Aberdeen FC's Pittodrie Stadium also celebrated a win, with the entire team receiving a Certificate of Achievement in the Directors' Choice in the Scottish Premiership League Award, and general manager Paul Quick receiving another, in the Special Achievement category, for more than a decade's outstanding service to the club.

Chris John, managing director, Sodexo Prestige said: "We are thrilled with this award, which recognizes the level of dedication, consistency and hard work demonstrated by our staff".



More than 47 UK football clubs have collaborated to form the Stadium Experience; a countrywide network of first class conference, banqueting, meeting, exhibition and party facilities. Its annual awards ceremony was launched four years ago to celebrate the best in catering and hospitality across the Premiership, Scottish Premier League and Coca-Cola Division two.

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Press Contacts:

Piers Zangana / Kirsteen Rodger

Sodexo

Tel: 020 7535 7400

Email: press.office@sodexo-uk.com

About Sodexo

In the UK and Ireland, Sodexo employs 43,000 employees, and provides food and facilities management services to clients at over 2,300 locations in the corporate services, education, healthcare, leisure and defence sectors.

Many companies rely on Sodexo for cost-effective solutions to their employee or hospitality catering, or to deliver services such as cleaning, reception, switchboard and help desks, mailroom, reprographics and grounds maintenance.

Sodexo is part of the Sodexo group the leading global provider of food and facilities management services, with more than 332,000 employees at 28,300 sites in 80 countries.