Title : HBZ receives Medal of Achievement from Computerworld Honors Collection 2005

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Oman Palestine Qatar Saudi Arabia Syria UAE Yemen Habib Bank AG Zurich has one of the most technologically advanced and innovative banking applications deployed across the enterprise. This award recognises Habib Bank AG Zurich for an outstanding and visionary application of that technology.

In 1994 HBZ wrote and deployed a unique language and banking application called hPLUS. Based on a tiny virtual machine and a Sybase database, this powerful concept allowed the bank to scale its applications on thin clients. Six months after that hPLUS became the world's first JavaTM Banking System.

The hPLUS team believed that interoperability would become the single most important aspect of the architecture. This bold new approach to transaction processing cured the most fundamental issues plaguing legacy systems, reducing costs, greater security and enhancing efficiency to unprecedented levels.

The result is an integrated banking solution including e-banking and mobile (over WAP, GPRS & 3g) solutions both for the banking enterprise and the client. Developed in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates and now being implemented in their network around the world, customers benefit from increased services, real time banking and lower banking fees. The bank is able to provide a greater security level and streamline their services with a reduced workforce.

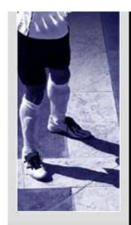
Habib Bank AG Zurich's proof of success is in their users. 64.3% of credit customers and 71.4% of depositors are presently using the HBZ integrated e-banking and mobile solution.

From more than 300 nominations submitted this year by the 100 industry chairmen and CEO's who serve on the program's Chairmen's Committee, 160 were honoured as laureates at last night's ceremonies in San Francisco. Of these, 50 will be chosen by a panel of distinguished judges to attend the June 6, 2005 awards gala in Washington, D.C., where the 10 world finalists will be announced.

Case studies from the 2005 Computerworld Honors Collection will be available at http://www.cwheroes.org, the official site of the Computerworld Honors Program, where the entire Collection is available to scholars, researchers and the general public worldwide. In addition, the Collection is distributed annually to the Honors Program's Archival Partners around the world. These partners include some of the world's finest research and scholarly institutions, each of which has generously agreed to include the Collection in its archives.

According to Dan Morrow, a founding director and chief historian for the Honors Program, 'This year's Laureates exemplify the very best in the creative use of IT in service to mankind. Their work and their stories are outstanding contributions to the history of the information technology revolution in every sense of the word, and, for the archives we serve all over the world, they are, truly, priceless.'

Founded in 1988, the Computerworld Honors Program searches for and recognizes individuals who have demonstrated vision and leadership as they strive to use information technology in innovative ways across 10 categories: Business and Related Services; Education and Academia; Environment, Energy and Agriculture; Finance, Insurance and Real Estate; Government and Non-Profit Organizations; Manufacturing; Media, Arts and Entertainment; Medicine; Science; and Transportation. Each year, the Computerworld Honors Chairmen's Committee nominates organizations who are using information technology to improve society for inclusion in the Computerworld Honors Online Archive and the Collections of the Global Archives. The Global Archives represents the 100-plus institutions from more than 30 countries that include the Computerworld Honors Collection in their archives and libraries.





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Related site: http://www.habibbank.com

# Notes and media contacts

### About Habib Bank AG Zurich

Habib Bank AG Zurich was established in 1967 on a solid foundation of banking tradition that spans several generations. Traditional banking values set in the context of international banking has determined Habib Bank AG Zurich's corporate philosophy - "Service with Security" - for over 35 years in operation. Providing trade finance, corporate, consumer, private, retail and correspondent banking products, the bank offers highly personalized service to its customers through its international network of over 50 branches and subsidiaries. In addition to offering traditional banking products over a number of channels, HBZ's leading technology solutions allows its clients to manage their accounts and conduct real time transactions 24 hours a day world wide through http://www.habibbank.com

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