OpenUK

PRESS RELEASE

OpenUK announces new Awards for Open technology across the UK

26 February 2020 – London, UK – OpenUK, the Open Technology advocate organisation for Open Data, Open Source Hardware and Open Source Software in the UK, today announced that it has launched its inaugural Awards for Open Technology companies and projects. The Awards will recognise communities and companies demonstrating best practices around Open Technologies with a ceremony to announce the winners taking place during London Tech Week in June 2020. This supports OpenUK's purpose of developing and sustaining UK Leadership in Open Technology.

The OpenUK Awards, sponsored this year by technology law firm Bristows, will take place at Bristows' offices in the Unilever Building on Thursday 11ᵗʰ June. At the ceremony, open source community leader and author of *People Powered* Jono Bacon will provide the keynote presentation.

The judges for the first OpenUK Awards are:
- Cheryl Hung, Director of Ecosystem, Cloud Native Computing Foundation and Linux Foundation
- Jeni Tennison, CEO of The Open Data Institute
- Chris Lamb, Leader of the Debian Project

"It's important to recognise all the important strides that UK businesses and organisations are taking around Open Technology with these new Awards – this is an area where the UK community continues to play a vital role in developing new technologies and collaborating as part of international projects. As a sector, we make a huge contribution to the success of the technology sector more widely around the world, whether you measure by financial gain or societal impact. As the UK develops its relationship with the rest of the world heading through 2020, the Open Technology sector has an incredible opportunity to continue that work and to promote UK Leadership in Open Technology," said Amanda Brock, CEO at OpenUK. "We want to make open technology the default approach to software, hardware and data, and continue that contribution to the world."

Toby Crick, Partner at Bristows and member of the OpenUK Legal and Policy Committee commented: "As a technology lawyer, I can't stress enough how important is to have an ongoing discussion on open tech. We've worked with many clients either creating, licensing or using open software and we know very well the challenges and opportunities this brings. Bristows welcomes the collaboration with OpenUK, a great facilitator of conversation and activities around open technology, and we're a convinced supporter of its many activities."

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The Awards will be made up of five categories:
- Open Data Project or Company
- Open Source Hardware Project or Company
- Open Source Software Project or Company
- Individual Contribution to Open Technology
- Young Person in Open Technology

The deadline for entries into the Awards is 12:00pm on 13th April 2020. The website for more details on the awards and potential entries is [link]. For other questions, contact OpenUK on awards@openuk.uk.

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About OpenUK
OpenUK is the industry association representing Open Technology being open source software, open source hardware and open data organisations across the UK. As an industry association, OpenUK gives its participants greater influence than they could ever achieve alone. OpenUK is committed to supporting collaboration between businesses, public sector organisations, government and communities to expand the opportunities available to all around open technology. It is building a visible community, ensuring the UK's laws and policies work for Open and promoting learning in Open Technology. OpenUK is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, company number 11209475.

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