

December 11, 2009

PRESS RELEASE

NUJ HONOURS STARCOMMS WITH CORPORATE EXCELLENCE AWARD

It was another day of accolades for Starcomms Plc on Thursday, 10 December at the prestigious New Chelsea Hotel Abuja, as the Federal Capital Territory council of the Nigeria Union of Journalists bestowed on the company the Award for Corporate Excellence. The award was part of the activities to mark the 2009 Press Week of the Abuja council of the NUJ.

Starcomms, which was the only telecommunication company awarded in this category was nominated, according to the NUJ awards committee, based on the "published and reported matters on the activities and developments of Starcomms over the past years."

The NUJ said that Starcomms deserved the award because the company has "consistently pursued set goals designed to better the lot of Nigerians through quality jobs, providing needed infrastructure and related facilities for fast-tracking the development of the country"

Starcomms, the only publicly quoted telecommunication company has been at the forefront of giving back to the society as a corporate entity. The company has created hundreds of entrepreneurs in every city, town and village under its network through the Starcomms Smart Centre initiatives, apart from the hundreds in the direct employment of Starcomms.

The company has also been a pillar of support to the Nigerian Police, having provided the public relations office of the Nigeria Police Force Headquarters with free Internet access for two years running now to help the office handle official messages and general complaints emanating from the public nationwide. This is sequel to the company's provision in 2008, a complete computer with Starcomms izap to the Force.

Responding to the gesture of the NUJ, the Chief Executive Officer of Starcomms Plc, Maher Qubain said: "We at Starcomms are very glad that our efforts all over the country are being noticed especially by those whose business has been to monitor the society and give a fair report on the activities of all. We receive the award with all sense of

responsibility and still commit ourselves to the continuous provision of innovative telecommunication services to our subscribers.”

The NUJ award is coming at the heels of the recent harvest of awards by Starcomms at the 2009 edition of the Nigeria Information Technology and Telecommunication Awards (NITTA). At NITTA Maher Qubain, the company’s CEO was adjudged the Nigerian Telecom CEO of the year 2009’.

The company won the ‘Best CDMA Operator of the year 2009’ award while Starcomms’ broadband internet services product & services ‘iZAP’ also won for the second time NIITA’s ‘Best Internet Product of the year 2009’.