

DEG HONORS INDUSTRY'S FINEST AT CES 2015

LAS VEGAS (Jan. 6, 2015) – During the International Consumer Electronics Show (CES) the DEG: The Digital Entertainment Group will hold its annual reception to award top honors for digital entertainment products and retailers who excel in the marketing of these products.

DEG established its retailer awards to recognize excellence in merchandising and promoting new digital entertainment products for hardware devices, Blu-ray Disc, and Digital HD titles; in addition to merchandising sellthrough and/or rental content online.

The membership voted for the following as the 2014 DEG Retailers of the Year:

DEG Hardware Retailer of the Year 2014 – Video & Audio Center

Video & Audio Center was recognized for becoming a common launch point for new technologies as well as a respected leader in showcasing it.

“We are delighted to see the DEG membership recognize a regional retailer for its tireless effort to educate consumers about the best devices and products for home entertainment use,” said Amy Jo Smith, President, DEG. “Video & Audio Center takes the time to train its staff who are then able to better market consumer electronics products to home entertainment enthusiasts.”

DEG Digital Retailer of the Year 2014 – Comcast

New to the home entertainment marketplace as a sellthrough retailer, Comcast was honored for its stellar execution into the electronic sellthrough market and for innovating amongst their peer group.

“Kudos to Comcast for not just launching a successful electronic sellthrough service for Digital HD, but doing so in a leadership position amongst their peers,” Smith said. “We congratulate Comcast on their successful entry into EST and for being honored by the DEG membership.”

DEG Software Retailer of the Year 2014 – Walmart

Walmart received the honors as DEG Software Retailer of the Year by the DEG membership. Members commented on their long standing commitment to both physical and digital content.

“Consumers appetite for physical content – both Blu-ray Disc and DVD – remain strong,” Smith commented. “We applaud Walmart for its tireless effort to support home entertainment content both in its stores and online.”

The DEG Emiel N. Petrone Innovation Awards

In memory of the DEG's founding Chairman Emiel N. Petrone, the DEG has four awards to acknowledge the year's most outstanding digital entertainment products released in calendar 2014 in the categories of Best 4K Ultra HD TV, Best Hi-Res Audio Product, Best Connected HD Device and Most Innovative Home Entertainment Product. Selected by a panel of product reviewers from the industry's home theater enthusiast publications, the following four products will be awarded with the top honors:

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Best 4K Ultra HD TV: Samsung UN65F9000 4K Ultra HD TV

Best Hi-Res Audio Product: Sony HAP-Z1ES Hi-Res Audio Music Player

Best Connected HD Device: OPPO BDP-103D Blu-ray Disc Player

Most Innovative Home Entertainment Product: Sharp SD-WH1000U Wireless High Resolution Audio Player

DEG Creative Excellence Awards

The DEG will also award seven awards to acknowledge Creative Excellence in Blu-ray Disc and Digital HD titles released in calendar 2014. The judging panel consisted of reviewers and industry reporters from trade, entertainment and daily consumer news organizations. In addition to overall sound and picture quality, all titles were considered for those features that best demonstrate the value-added nature of the formats. The DEG Creative Excellence Award Winners for 2014:

New Release on Blu-ray: *Guardians of the Galaxy* (Walt Disney Studios)

Classic Reissue on Blu-ray: Halloween Complete Collection (Anchor Bay Entertainment)

New Release on Digital HD: *X-Men Days of Future Past* (Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment)

Classic Reissue on Digital HD: *Stop Making Sense* (Cinedigm)

TV on Blu-ray: *Batman: The Complete Television Series Limited Edition* (Warner Bros. Home Entertainment)

Hi-Res Audio Download: *Kind of Blue, Miles Davis* (Sony Music Entertainment)

Concert Video on Blu-ray: *Quadrophenia: Live in London, The Who* (Universal Music Group)

DEG: The Digital Entertainment Group is an industry association that advocates and promotes entertainment platforms, products and distribution channels on behalf of the motion picture, music, consumer electronics and technology companies.

DEG membership is comprised of: Akamai, Alliance Entertainment, Anchor Bay Entertainment, BBC AMERICA, bitMAX, BluFocus, Cinedigm, Cinram, Content Bridge, Cryptography Research, DTS Inc, DirecTV, Deloitte, Deluxe Digital, Dolby Laboratories, Entertainment One, FilmTrack, GfK Entertainment, Gibson Brands, Inc., Google Play, HBO Home Entertainment, Intel, Kaleidescape, Inc., LG Electronics USA, Lionsgate, Mediamorph, MGM, Microsoft, MovieLabs, NPD Group, Neustar Media, Nielsen Entertainment, Panasonic, Paramount Home Media Distribution, Philips Electronics, PricewaterhouseCoopers, RLJ Entertainment, Random Media, Redbox, Rentrak, Rovi, Samsung Electronics, ScreenPlay, Sellthru Co, Sony DADC, Sony Electronics, Sony Music Entertainment, Sony Pictures Home Entertainment, Technicolor, The Orchard, Toshiba America Consumer Products, Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment, Universal Music Group, Universal Operations Group, Universal Pictures Home Entertainment, Verizon, Vubiquity, Walt Disney Studios, Warner Bros. Home Entertainment and Western Digital.