

Super 16 in running for Business Awards glory

THE Manchester Evening News today reveals the finalists in our 2010 Business of the Year Awards.

The category for companies with turnover of more than £50m contains four finalists: Wigan-based sofa retailer **CSL**, train services operator **First TransPennine Express**; Salford-based manpower firm **Morson Group** and Cheshire-based **Pets at Home**, which was bought by American private equity outfit **KKR** for £955m in January.

In the category for firms with a turnover between £25m and £50m, the finalists are Manchester-based logistics and freight company **Cardinal Maritime Group**, a former winner and 2009 finalist, Cheshire engineering firm **Oliver Valves** and Bury communications and IT business **Outsourcing**.

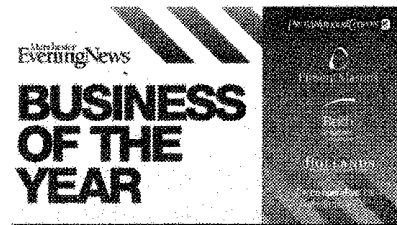
In the running for the prize in the category for businesses with a £10m-£25m turnover are Bolton-based retail chain **Cash Generator**, accident management firm **Easi-drive**, a 2009 finalist, and previous winner **UKFast**, a Manchester-based

internet hosting provider. The finalists in the category for companies with a turnover under £10m are Bolton-based foster care provider **Modus Communi-candi**, Irlam party decorations business **Party Delights** and Manchester data centre firm **Sudlows**, also a 2009 finalist.

The young business of the year category, for firms less than three years old, will be contested by Congleton pharmaceutical design company **Protomed**, interior design and fit-out firm **Sustainability Inc** and Trafford-based commercial kitchen equipment supplier **UK Equipment Direct**.

Business editor and chairman of the judging panel Kevin Feddy said: "As always, there were some fantastic entrants this year

and the panel faced some very difficult decisions to narrow the field down to these finalists."



» **The awards ceremony will be held at the Hilton Manchester Deansgate on November 17, hosted by BBC broadcaster John Humphrys.**