

Unix Movers And Shakers Honored

BY MIKE FADEN

San Francisco—Developers, marketers and others who helped transform Unix from a research tool to a multibillion-dollar industry were honored at an awards ceremony marking AT&T's farewell to Unix.

With AT&T's plans to sell Unix System Laboratories to Novell, the telecommunications giant is now focusing on

And The Winners Were ...

Academic Driver: Robert Fabry, Computer Systems Research Group, University of Calif.-Berkeley; Deborah Scherrer, Lawrence Berkeley Lab; Bob Schiefler, X Consortium.

Unix Evangelist: Mike DeFazio, USL; Bob Marsh, UniForum; Armando Slettrier, DEC; Bruce Weiner, Mindcraft.

Technology Innovator: Steve Bourne, for the Bourne Shell; Vinton G. Cerf, for TCP/IP; John Mashey, for Source Code Control System; Eric Schmidt, for Network File System.

Standards Champion: Jim Bell, UniForum and X/Open; Walter De Backer, European Commission; Heinz Lycklama, UniForum and X/Open

Application Creation: Frame Technology; Informix; Oracle; Sybase

Global Market Builder: Larry Crume, Lotus; Geoff Morris, X/Open; Yoshiro Yoshioka, Fujitsu

Special Distinction: Mike Azzara, *Open Systems Today*; Maureen O'Gara, Unigram.X; Ed Taylor, Pencom

Lifetime Achievement: Pamela Gray, UniForum; Bill Joy, Sun; Doug Michels, SCO

Business Commitment—Vendor: HP; SCO; Sun

Business Commitment—End User: Burlington Coat Factory; DHL; Federal Express; Hyatt Hotels; Wal-Mart

networking, mostly through its NCR subsidiary.

Hosted by AT&T and USL, The Unix Awards commemorated pioneers from both vendor and user communities.

The proceedings included a hint of the mischievous fun of Unix' early days, as Unix creator Dennis Ritchie, who introduced the honorees in the Lifetime Achievement category, jokingly named Federal Judge Dickinson Debevoise a winner. The judge recently ruled against USL in its attempt to prevent distribution of Berkeley Software Design's cheap Unix clone.

The winners ranged from notable developers such as Bill Joy and Steve Bourne to users who championed Unix as an early standard, including the European Commission's Walter de Backer.

Open Systems Today Editor Mike Azzara, who won a Special Distinction award for editorial coverage, delivered an introductory speech that likened the development of Unix to the evolution of humanity, and compared the couplings among different Unix variants to the promiscuity of the human race.

On a more serious note, an official at DHL, which received a Business Commitment—End User award, outlined problems that still face users. DHL succeeded in its six-year struggle to implement Unix-based mission-critical systems on different Unix platforms, said Leonard Hancock, president and CEO of DHL Systems. But that effort included considerable porting work to overcome the incompatibilities and inadequacies of Unix operating systems.

Open Systems Today March 29, 1993