

## PRESS RELEASE

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### SYMVAN CAPITAL NAMED BEST SEIS INVESTMENT MANAGER AT 2016 GROWTH INVESTOR AWARDS

- **Symvan Capital takes accolade ahead of Daedalus Partners and Oxford Technology**
- Visit [growthinvestorawards.com](http://growthinvestorawards.com) for details of all winners and runners-up

Thursday 3 November saw more than 400 industry professionals come together at the Marriott Grosvenor Square Hotel, Mayfair for the second annual Growth Investor Awards, organised by Intelligent Partnership. The awards were created to recognise innovation and impact in UK investment management, to highlight the importance of venture capital schemes and the industry's contribution to job growth and wealth creation, and to honour all those involved in putting investment to work in small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Opening the event, Guy Tolhurst, managing director of Intelligent Partnership said: "Whether you're a financial planner recommending alternative investments, an investment provider investing in growth businesses, or one of the many service providers who make this industry tick. You're all part of the same ecosystem. And together you're supporting entrepreneurs in putting growth capital to work and helping some fantastic businesses to thrive."

Broadcaster Steph McGovern and comedian Mark Watson presented awards across 14 different categories. The ceremony included a [scene-setting film about growth capital](#) and also featured keynote speeches from Iain Wright, MP and Lord Karan Bilimoria CBE.

Symvan Capital won the highly coveted Best SEIS Investment Manager award at the 2016 Growth Investor Awards. The award, sponsored by **RW Blears**, was open to any investment manager specialising in Seed Enterprise Investment Schemes, and was judged on investment volume, impact on the investee company, product development and adviser outreach.

The award was presented to Symvan Capital by Frank Daly, partner of RW Blears. Symvan Capital fought off strong competition from Daedalus Partners and Oxford Technology.

Daniel Kiernan, Research Director at Intelligent Partnership, explained why the judging panel selected Symvan Capital: "An early leader in SEIS funding, with a strong track record, Symvan impressed judges with the levels of support for investee businesses, which go much further than funding, taking companies from the earliest stages of growth to established businesses."

Commenting on the award, Kealan Doyle, CEO at Symvan Capital said: "We are honoured to have been recognised in this category. Symvan Capital was established to enable investors to access technology companies with high growth potential. The Symvan Capital approach supports our view that the best investment returns can be created from nurturing early-stage technologies through to and including participation in Series A fundraising rounds."

The night also featured keynote speeches that highlighted the importance of companies using tax advantaged venture capital schemes to help them scale up quickly, as well the need to support SMEs that are creating jobs, generating tax revenue and helping to drive Britain's economic recovery.

Iain Wright, MP for Hartlepool and Chairman of the Business, Innovation and Skills Select Committee, said: "Venture capital initiatives like the EIS, SEIS and the Angel Co Fund are good. They should not

be tinkered with, but instead widely promoted and become a truly stable if not permanent part of the access to finance ecosystem.” He lent his weight to the campaign, “I hope that the Growth Investor Awards can continue to scale up, to go from strength to strength and show the positive impact that the SME investment community is having in generating growth, jobs and wealth.”

Visit [growthinvestorawards.com/winners](http://growthinvestorawards.com/winners) for more details on the winners and runners-up.

**Ends**

## **Notes for editors**

### **Full list of 2016 Growth Investor Award Winners**

#### **INDUSTRY CHAMPION**

- Winner: Sam Smith, Founder and CEO at finnCap

#### **EXIT OF THE YEAR, sponsored by Bovill**

- Winner: Beringea
- Runner-up: YFM Equity Partners

#### **MOST IMPACTFUL INVESTMENT**

- Winner: Cyrus Investment Management
- Runner-up: Foresight Group

#### **INDUSTRY GAME-CHANGER, sponsored by MICAP**

- Winner: Syndicate Room
- Runner-up: Crowdcube

#### **BEST INVESTMENT PLATFORM, sponsored by Bates Wells Braithwaite**

- Winner: Syndicate Room
- Runner-up: Seedrs

#### **BEST SEIS INVESTMENT MANAGER, sponsored by RW Blears**

- Winner: Symvan Capital
- Runner-up: Daedalus

#### **BEST BPR INVESTMENT MANAGER, sponsored by Reyker**

- Winner: Octopus Investments
- Runner-up: TIME Investments

#### **BEST AIM INVESTMENT MANAGER**

- Winner: PUMA Investments
- Runner-up: Unicorn

#### **BEST EIS INVESTMENT MANAGER, sponsored by Mainspring Fund Services**

- Winner: Calculus Capital
- Runner-up: MMC Ventures

#### **BEST VCT INVESTMENT MANAGER**

- Winner: YFM Equity Partners
- Runner-up: Albion

**FINANCIAL ADVISER OF THE YEAR**, sponsored by **LGBR Capital**

- Winner: Jonothan McColgan
- Runner-up: Stephen Jones

**WEALTH MANAGER OF THE YEAR**, sponsored by **RAM Capital**

- Winner: UBS
- Runner-up: Ascot Lloyd

**GROWTH CHAMPION OF THE YEAR**, sponsored by **Smith & Williamson**

- Winner: Eve Sleep
- Runner-up: Carwow
- Commended: notonthehighstreet.com

**GROWTH INVESTOR OF THE YEAR**, sponsored by **Beauhurst**

- Winner: Octopus Investments
- Runner-up: MMC Ventures

**About the Growth Investor Awards**

The Growth Investor Awards are organised by Intelligent Partnership with partners including the BVCA, EISA, UKCFA, The Centre for Entrepreneurs, The Entrepreneur Network and The Supper Club. The awards are supported by a family of sponsors including Smith & Williamson, Beauhurst, Bovill, Bates Wells Braithwaite, La Fosse Associates, LGBR Capital, Mainspring, RAM Capital Partners, MI-CAP, and RW Blears. Find out more at [growthinvestorawards.com](http://growthinvestorawards.com).

**About Intelligent Partnership**

As the UK's leading curator of education and insights on alternative investments, Intelligent Partnership increases awareness and engagement amongst intermediaries, providing them with the tools and information to speak knowledgeably with their clients about a broader range of investment options. Insights are delivered year-round through a programme of content that includes award-winning digital and printed reports, video content, and live events – which are accredited for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) by the Chartered Insurance Institute (CII), Institute of Financial Planning (IFP) and Personal Finance Society (PFS). This content is aimed at its 5,000+ subscriber community of advisers, wealth managers and financial services professionals who are all interested or active in alternative investments. Find out more at [intelligent-partnership.com](http://intelligent-partnership.com).

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