



Press Release

PR: 175

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Dated: 13th November 2009

The National Winner and Britain's No 1 Tradesman

After a nationwide search to find Britain's top tradesmen, Bristol builder Nick Orchard has beaten off stiff competition to be named as Britain's No 1 tradesman.

Roman Russocki, Chief Executive of TrustMark, says, "Tradesmen are the backbone of this country and this competition was created to recognise them and the vital work they carry out. Cowboy builders and rogue traders can give homeowners a real headache but there are some brilliant tradesmen out there. The standard of entries was extremely high but Nick really stood out as being the best of the best. The project he entered highlighted how he had really gone the extra mile on a tough job."

Nick stated, "I've always tried to bring quality service to my customers and I pride myself on the finish of every project – in fact my company tag line is 'quality is our strength, reliability is our promise'. I'm delighted to win this competition and hopefully it will help restore homeowners faith in our industry – there are some rogues out there but the majority of us are honest, reliable and trustworthy," says Nick Orchard of England's Finest Property Services Limited, and voted Britain's No 1 tradesman in the TrustMark competition.

Nick was voted the overall winner by the judging panel for his work in totally transforming a very small and essentially unusable cellar area into a bright and light utility and cloakroom area for a property in Bristol. It was a difficult and tricky job due to the size of the space available and the fact that damp was a major challenge as the cellar was under the pavement.

As the winner of the competition, Nick wins £5,000 and a year's membership with TrustMark.

Congratulations

TrustMark helps you find reliable and trustworthy tradesmen to carry out repairs, maintenance and improvements to the inside and outside of your home. The scheme is supported by the Government, the building industry and consumer protection organisations.

For further information about TrustMark, go to www.trustmark.org.uk

What makes selecting TrustMark tradesmen so worthwhile?

1. A firm's technical skills have been **independently checked** through regular **on-site inspections**, as well checks on their **trading record** and **financial status**

2. Firms have signed up to a **code of practice** that includes **insurance**, good **health and safety** practices and **customer care**
3. The approved scheme operator has checked, and will continue to monitor firms' **quality of work, trading practices** and **customer satisfaction**
4. Firms are able to offer an **Insurance Backed Warranty**
5. **Deposit Protection Insurance** is available for consumers in the event a firm should cease trading
6. The firm will tell you about any **building regulations** you must comply with and may also be able to provide appropriate certificates
7. If you have a problem or disagreement with a firm, there will be a clear and user – **friendly complaints procedure** to help you resolve the issue.

All of these checks will give the consumer - **Peace of Mind**

8. In return, customers are expected to deal fairly with the firm, agree a fair price for good work and pay quickly when the job is finished.
9. TrustMark operates across the UK.
10. The consumer research was conducted by MyVoice on behalf of TrustMark. The sample size was 1055 adult homeowners aged 18+.

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**For further information please contact:
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