

Gift Voucher Shop Scoops Ulster Bank Business Achievers Award



Irish voucher specialist, The Gift Voucher Shop (GVS) has been awarded a prestigious Business Going International Award at The Ulster Bank Business Achievers Awards, 12 March 2009, in recognition for their successful development internationally including the UK and Maltese markets.

Speaking at the ceremony Gift Voucher Shop CEO, Michael Dawson, said: "We are thrilled to have got this award – especially since we were up against some strong competition and almost 400 entries this year.

A household name in Ireland, **One4all**[®] has now become the number one gift voucher in Malta and is making strong inroads to the £3.2 billion gift voucher market in the UK through its partnership with the UK Post Office. This is testimony to both the strength of our product and our team's hard work breaking into these markets."

Michael added: "In winning this award we further demonstrate the role that 1,000 of Small and Medium size companies like The Gift Voucher Shop are playing in helping to turn around the economy by providing all sorts of international services and facilities out of Ireland".

About Gift Voucher Shop

The Gift Voucher Shop (GVS) provides gift vouchers and gift cards on behalf of hundreds of top retailers and smaller independent retailers through the national Post Office, internet and telesales channels. Established by Michael Dawson in 2002, the company registered a turnover of €63 million in 2007 and employs 72 people at its Swords office.

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GVS launched the **One4all**[®] Gift Voucher in 2004, now the leading gift voucher product in both the consumer and corporate market. Leading stores such as Argos, Arnotts, Brown Thomas, Superquinn, Debenhams, HMV, Easons, Champion Sports, Clarion Hotels are retail partners with the gift voucher scheme. In Ireland, corporate sales grew by 50% between 2006 and 2007 and GVS now has over 3,200 corporate clients. Its latest product launch has been The "**One4all**[®] Smart Planner" an innovative product that allows employees set aside funds in a "Christmas Club" style on-line programme and be rewarded for doing so by the allocation of Prize Bond numbers.

Gift Voucher Shop going international

Following its success in Ireland, GVS launched a service in Malta with Maltapost in November 2004. GVS Gift Vouchers are available in all 31 Maltapost branches throughout Malta and Gozo and can be spent in over 200 retail outlets on the two islands.

In October 2005, GVS and the Post Office Ltd launched in all of the 12,600 Post Office branches across the UK, partnering with B&Q, Comet, Debenhams, Habitat, Halfords, Goldsmiths, Mothercare, River Island and the Arcadia Group.

Over the next three years GVS plans to expand its UK business and is aiming to grow its annual turnover to half a billion sterling by 2013. GVS poised to enter other European markets over the next 12-24 months