



Media Inquiries:

Jennifer Divelbiss
BAI, Chicago, USA
jdivebiss@bai.org
(312) 683-2346

NEWS RELEASE

Finalists Announced for BAI's Global Banking Innovation Awards

*The Sixth Annual Awards Program Brings Top Global Innovators
Together at BAI Beacon in Chicago*

CHICAGO, IL. (July 27, 2016) – Finalists for the 2016 BAI Global Banking Innovation Awards have been announced – showcasing this year's top innovators within the financial services industry worldwide that are working to move the industry forward. The 15 finalists selected represent the most forward-thinking leaders transforming the industry. Both finalists and winners will be recognized and celebrated at BAI's new immersive conference, BAI Beacon, taking place at McCormick Place in Chicago, October 5-6, 2016.

BAI serves as a global hub for connecting forward-thinking organizations and leaders who are changing the face of the industry, and established the BAI Global Banking Innovation Awards to be a catalyst for innovation in the financial sector. BAI's mission is to give financial services leaders the tools and information needed to make smart business decisions every day, recognizing that innovation is an important tool for being at the forefront of the industry and to drive positive change.

As the world's premier financial services innovation awards program, the finalists and winners receive worldwide visibility as innovation visionaries to more than 100,000 senior financial services leaders. Over the past six years, over 1,000 nominations from more than 540 financial companies globally have been submitted. And while the awards program began with only two categories in 2011, it has grown to nine categories today, including six primary innovation categories and three overall awards.

"BAI's role within the financial services industry is to deliver actionable insights and new perspectives on innovation," said Holly Hughes, Chief Marketing Officer for BAI. "This annual awards program brings the best and brightest innovative organizations to the forefront of our industry, so we can collectively – and globally – continue to build upon each other's innovations and continuously evolve what financial organizations can deliver to customers."

The Innovation Circle Judging Panel, comprised of 13 prominent international innovators who represent the industry, was chosen to evaluate nominations on the basis of originality, the unique value to the customer; and impact, the realization of substantial improvement or benefit to the customer base and the organization.

"Having the privilege of evaluating some of the most cutting edge, industry-leading innovations and having to choose the organizations that rose to the top – it was very exciting," said Miranda Hill, VP, Product Management Manager, WF Labs and Incubator, Wells Fargo. "We are getting a first-hand look at the technology and innovation that our peers have developed and implemented into their institutions, and we will be able to learn from them as they pave the way for our industry's future."

-more-

Innovators are awarded for demonstrated excellence in a variety of product and service areas. The awards categories, and finalists for each, are outlined below.

Product and Service Innovation

- *imaginBank:*
 - CaixaBank S.A.'s mobile bank for millennials is the first in the world that can only be accessed using mobile devices and social networks
- *Fast Loan for SMEs:*
 - DenizBank's loan application process utilizing SMS, Web, Internet Banking, ATM or Facebook channels
- *CEO Mobile® biometrics:*
 - Wells Fargo's latest security innovation utilizing a unique Eyeprint feature in addition to an ID and password to sign on
- *Quick Menu via O-BAI (Online Banking Artificial Intelligence):*
 - DenizBank's milestone as the first bank in Turkey using AI for the creation of personalized online Banking Services

Channel Innovation

- *Use of humanoid robots "Pepper":*
 - Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.'s use of "Pepper" humanoid robots to serve as concierges in traditional formal Japanese bank branches
- *FNB Unified API platform:*
 - First National Bank (FNB)'s new platform facilitates a unified horizontal presentation layer that delivers content & functionality from multiple fintech systems for a customer-centric experience on any device
- *Westpac Live:*
 - Westpac Bank's banking platform that empowers customers to bank anywhere, anytime, enabling them to take control of their finances and build positive financial habits
- *Emirates NBD-Innovative Digital Banking Services through its Mobile Banking App*
 - Emirates NBD's mobile banking app enables customers to perform over 100 transactions, including requests for new products and services via Emirates NBD's online and mobile banking channels

Innovation in Societal and Community Impact

- *"Yo Me Uno" (I am in):*
 - BAC Credomatic's effort to connect NGOs with potential donors and volunteers, providing free fundraising, training and mentoring
- *The WesBank Uber Driver Model – supported by FNB Vumela:*
 - Wesbank in collaboration with FNB partnered with Uber to empower low-salaried drivers employed by Uber to own their own vehicles and build their own businesses
- *Logging In To E-Government Service Through Internet Banking:*
 - DenizBank's integration of the e-government system into its Internet banking channel without any password, boosting the customer experience
- *TEB Women Banking:*
 - Turk Ekonomi Bankasi (TEB)'s establishment of a separate department to provide Women's Banking services that provide solutions to the obstacles women face in business

Innovation in Payments

- *Risk Modelling Innovation through Data Analytics:*
 - CaixaBank S.A.'s solution to customers' dissatisfaction due to response time, denials and overall application complexity
- *Digital Banking Platform for Real-time, Contextual and Conditional Payments Across Multiple Channels:*
 - CBW Bank's real-time payments solution that leverages debit networks from within a bank account and is API-enabled
- *Card Guard® from America First Credit Union:*
 - America First Credit Union's product that let's cardholders manage their Visa credit and debit cards and ATM cards, all through their smartphone

Innovation in Internal Process Improvement

- *Virtual Assistant in Foreign Trade WATSON:*
 - CaixaBank S.A.'s WATSON Engagement Advisor (WEA) application that builds a more intelligent and efficient financial terminal, with better and faster access to information for employees
- *Smart Collect:*
 - Alior Bank S.A.'s intelligent automated and scenario-based process of debt collection
- *Citi Retail Services' Entity Linkage Framework (ELF):*
 - Citi Retail Services' ELF integrates all available customer identifiers and matching algorithms to handle unstructured data
- *HIPPO-Gamified Sales Platform:*
 - Türk Ekonomi Bankasi (TEB)'s HIPPO is an in-house project developed through implementing gamification elements into a newly-designed platform

Honorable Mention – Most Innovative Non-Bank Financial Services Organization

- *NerdWallet's Checking Account Tool:*
 - NerdWallet's innovative new tool evaluates 14 inputs from users against more than 3,300 checking account options to remove guesswork and streamline selection process for consumers

Disruptive Innovation in Banking

- *Use of humanoid robots "Pepper":*
 - Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.'s use of "Pepper" humanoid robots to serve as concierges in traditional formal Japanese bank branches
- *Smart Collect:*
 - Alior Bank S.A.'s intelligent automated and scenario-based process of debt collection
- *Virtual Assistant in Foreign Trade WATSON:*
 - CaixaBank S.A.'s WATSON Engagement Advisor (WEA) application that builds a more intelligent and efficient financial terminal, with better and faster access to information for employees
- *Logging In To E-Government Service Through Internet Banking:*
 - DenizBank's integration of the e-government system into its Internet banking channel without any password, boosting the customer experience

Most Innovative Community-Based Banking Organization

- WSFS Bank
- America First Credit Union
- CBW Bank

Most Innovative Bank of the Year

- First National Bank (FNB)
- CaixaBank S.A.
- DenizBank
- Türk Ekonomi Bankası (TEB)

Finalists and winners for each category will be celebrated at the BAI Beacon conference in Chicago, October 5-6, 2016. Finalists and winners will benefit from global visibility and prestige, increased credibility with their partners and, ultimately, a strengthened brand as a leading industry innovator.

To learn more about the BAI Global Banking Innovation Awards and the finalists, please visit BAIGlobalInnovations.com. To learn more about BAI Beacon, visit BAIBeacon.com.

About BAI

BAI delivers the financial services industry's most actionable insights, enabling leaders to make smart business decisions, every day. We're passionate about the trusted information and powerful tools that provide leaders with the clarity and confidence needed to prepare for tomorrow, while performing better today. For more information, visit www.bai.org.

BAI is Bank Administration Institute and BAI Center.

###