

It's my pleasure to announce that the winner of the 2013 Smitty Award for Technician of the Year is Ryan Nelson. After receiving input from Technicians, Trainees and Managers, Ryan was selected to continue the tradition of excellence.

In 2013, Ryan was involved in 13 glass furnace drains including some of the most challenging set ups. Unfortunately, Ryan was also injured at year end but this award is unrelated to that event. The award is to recognize the work ethic, customer service, ingenuity, communication, cooperation and teamwork displayed throughout the year. When our new trainees were polled about who helped them the most to understand the client's facilities and Hotwork's role, several senior Technicians stood out and Ryan was one of them.

Ryan's name will be added to the plaque in the Hotwork lobby and he will be receiving a cash recognition award. Please join me in congratulating Ryan Nelson as the winner of the 2013 Smitty Award.

Tom