

## Retail Excellence announce Ireland's Top30 Stores

## Retailers from every sector make it to the Top of the Shops

Retail Excellence, the largest retail industry representative organization in Ireland, has today announced the Top30 stores in Ireland. The list comprises retailers from around the country in every sector within the Irish Retail Industry.

The Store of the Year competition is the central part of the Retail Excellence Annual Awards, which were established in 1997 to promote best practice and encourage the highest standards in the Irish Retail Industry. They are now the largest and most prestigious of their kind in Ireland.

The Top30 stores will now be rigorously tested with a financial audit and an onsite visit from Retail Excellence and Echochamber, our UK Retail Excellence Consultant partners. The sectoral category winners, Top5 Stores and the National Store of the Year will be announced at a black-tie Awards banquet on Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> in the Malton Hotel, Killarney, County Kerry.

Former "National Store of the Year" winners include Avoca, TileStyle, Applegreen, Arboretum, O'Briens Wines, Galvin For Men and Greenacres.

David Fitzsimons, Chief Executive of Retail Excellence commented, "This process started some time ago when a record number of retailers submitted entries to our Store of the Year competition. The competition is intense and the quality of the applications received made it all the more difficult to select the Top30".

"As Irish retail competes with external factors like Brexit and sterling devaluation our members and their staff have stood up to the plate and are proving their resilience yet again. The trojan work done by them in enhancing customer service and experience made our task of whittling the numbers down to 30 all the more difficult".

"I want to congratulate those who made the Top30 Stores who are among the very best retailers in the country. Unfortunately, there can only be one winner but their journey this far is testament to the hard work of the owners, their staff and investment in their retail operations".

"The retail industry continues to play its part in keeping businesses open, retail workers in jobs and our town centres vibrant and our commitment to all is to continue driving standards in retail in this country."

Ends/ Contact Lorraine 087 9034883

## **About Retail Excellence**

Established in 1995, Retail Excellence is owned by the members, for the members. We are an organisation which invests in innovative and exciting learning, market intelligence, human resources services, Government representation and member networking initiatives. Retail Excellence has over 1,750 leading retail companies in Ireland. Our members are the most progressive and innovative retailers. Retail Excellence is by far the largest retail industry body in Ireland.