

J&C Joel win UK Exporter of the Year Award

J&C Joel had good reason to celebrate Chinese New Year last month as they won the prestigious 48 Group Club (The Ice Breakers) UK Exporter of the Year award at the annual Chinese New Year Dinner and Chinese Business Awards. The event at London's Dorchester Hotel incorporates a series of awards for businesses that have made outstanding contributions to developing and maintaining Sino-UK business relations, bilateral trade and cultural links.



Above: James Wheelwright & Andrew Walsh

Keynote speakers included Lord Mandelson, Secretary of state for business, innovation and skills. Vince Cable, the Liberal Democrat Shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer and leading business CEOs. The 48 Group Club was formed in the early 1950's when the founders were the first westerners to break the international trade embargo on China (The Icebreakers). The original 48 companies involved went on to establish mutually beneficial trade relations with the newly formed People's Republic of China. Today the club has over 500 British and Chinese members mostly senior executives from corporate organisations as well as high-level politicians, diplomats and academics.

J&C Joel Limited is renowned as one of the worlds leading theatrical drape manufacturers, and one of the few remaining manufacturers in Yorkshire to proudly promote quality British workmanship and craft overseas. The region has always been integral to J&C Joel's worldwide distribution of theatrical products .The company's long relationship with China started some 20 years ago and has recently been reinforced by the opening of an office in Hong Kong.

CEO James Wheelwright and Managing Director Andrew Walsh attended and accepted the award.

'We are very honoured to receive this award and understand just how important this is for the continuing growth of J&C Joel not only in China but the rest of the world. It is great recognition for the entire team at J&C Joel and also enforces our commitment to the region.' says James.

'We were so proud to be nominated and to win was just wonderful. We see it as a major achievement to be exporting to China when most UK companies import from the region.' Added Andrew.



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The company now supplies its drapes and fabrics to numerous illustrious theatres in China including The Shanghai Grand Theatre, Shanghai Oriental Arts Centre, National Ballet of China and the new landmark dome in Beijing the National Centre for the Performing Arts (right)



Above: National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA)

In the last 12 months J&C Joel's profile has grown even further with projects for the newly completed CCTV Studios in Beijing which is the largest TV station facility in China and Beijing TV (below)

As J&C Joel move into the Year of the Tiger, they do so with the confidence that their products are world class and that their commitment and service to China has been recognised by this award.

'This award allows us to build relationships with the Chinese people based on the knowledge that they can purchase from us and know that they will be receiving the best the world has to offer.' Added James.



Above: Beijing Television (BTV)

Content

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