

## PINK ELEPHANT ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF THEIR ANNUAL IT EXCELLENCE AWARDS AT “PINK17”

*Project Of The Year, Practitioner Of The Year & Innovation Of The Year*

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**Las Vegas, NV – February 21, 2017** – Today, Pink Elephant announced the winners for their [IT Excellence Awards](#) at Pink Elephant’s [21<sup>st</sup> Annual International IT Service Management Conference & Exhibition](#) – “Pink17” – at the Bellagio Hotel in Las Vegas.

*“Congratulations to all of the IT Excellence Award winners!”* said George Spalding, Executive Vice President, Pink Elephant. *“These awards recognize the contributions of individual and corporate commitment to IT excellence and best practices in IT Service Management and we are proud to honor these achievements at Pink17”.*

### **The Awards And Their Winners Are:**

**Project Of The Year:** Recognizes an organization that has demonstrated significant commitment to best practice frameworks including ITIL<sup>®</sup>, ISO, COBIT<sup>®</sup>, Lean IT, and Six Sigma.

- **Gold Award Winner:** Los Angeles Unified School District
- **Silver Award Winner:** Sutter Health

*“Our thanks to the Pink Elephant organization for this important recognition of the Los Angeles Unified School District,”* said James Alther, Senior Technology Director, LA Unified School District. *“This is a well-deserved honor for the Information Technology Division employees who every day give their all to make sure our students and teachers have access to resources critical for teaching and learning.”*

*“We are extremely proud to have been selected as the Silver Award winner of this IT Excellence Award. This is a tremendous accomplishment for Sutter Health,”* said James Stuart, VP & Chief Operations Officer, Information Services, Sutter Health. *“We are very early in our Service Management journey but this recognition serves as validation that we are on the right track. I’d like to thank everyone on the Sutter Health IS team for all of their dedication and thank our colleagues at Sutter Health for supporting us. This award reflects not only our hard work but also the partnership with our customers. I’m also thankful to Pink Elephant for their support and guidance.”*

**Practitioner Of The Year:** Recognizes an individual who has shown commitment to the principles of best practices, continuous improvement and quality.

- **Gold Award Winner:** Stephanie Jambor-Trisket – IT Manager and ITSM Program Sponsor, Erie Insurance
- **Silver Award Winner:** Brian Kenney – Project Portfolio Manager, Corporate Information Services (CIS), Amica
- **Bronze Award Winner:** Gina Hunkins – ITSM Program Manager, Sutter Health

*“What a humbling experience to be recognized for doing something that you are passionate about! This award is a reflection of teamwork; we are successful through our strong working relationships and dedication. I am extremely proud of the Erie IT organization in adopting our new framework despite the velocity of the program, affectionately dubbed “RevITalize IT Services,” said Stephanie Jambor-Trisket – IT Manager ITSM Delivery and Support. I would like to thank Pink Elephant for acknowledging our efforts and the EIG Senior and Executive leadership team for their support and strategic vision. I look forward to continued success for the team and the organization.”*

*“Thank you to Pink Elephant for this award – it’s truly an honor to be recognized as the Silver Award winning Practitioner of the Year, said Brian Kenney, Project Portfolio Manager. I’d like to recognize our entire program team for their dedication and support, and I truly feel that each and every one of them also deserves this award. I’d also like to thank Amica’s corporate information systems leadership team for putting their trust in me to drive our ITSM vision forward, as well as the entire CIS department for making sure our journey is successful. Lastly, I’d like to thank Pink Elephant’s Graham Price and Scott Priest for their commitment and dedication to this project.”*

*“I would like to thank Pink Elephant for their partnership and recognition of my commitment to excellence at Sutter Health,” said Gina Hunkins, Sutter Health. “A special thanks to Matt Bowles for all of his support and creative solutions, Stuart James for his vigorous sponsorship, Sheri Solhtalab for her tenacity and the many partners and staff that made the last 12 months a success! Receiving this award is a testament of our transformational journey and commitment to change.”*

**Innovation Of The Year:** This award recognizes a product or service developed by an IT services vendor that has taken an innovative approach to address a specific business problem or opportunity. The product must have been launched in 2016 either as an original product/service, or a major new release.

- **Gold Award Winner:** SunView Software – ChangeGear 7 Service Manager with Service Smart Technology
- **Silver Award Winner:** CA Technologies – CA Service Management – xFlow User Experience

*“We are truly honored to win the IT Excellence Award for Innovation of the Year. Service Smart Technology has been the culmination of a lot of hard work from the SunView team, and we’re proud to be recognized for what we believe to be a paradigm shift for not just IT Service Management, but also for the enterprise as a whole,”* said Seng Sun, CEO of SunView Software. *“Artificial Intelligence algorithms like Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning are fundamentally changing the way we analyze data, gain insights and automate mundane tasks. We’re on the cusp of a great transformation and are excited to be on the forefront of our industry by providing such a breakthrough technology.”*

*“We believe there is significant room for innovation and differentiation in ITSM and are honored to have been selected as the Silver Award winner of the ITSM Innovation of the Year award by Pink Elephant,”* said Jeff Moloughney, Senior Director, Product Marketing, CA Technologies. *“This recognition supports our approach to removing the barriers between ideas and outcomes with solutions like CA Service Management to deliver an exceptional user experience.”*

## **About Pink17**

Pink Elephant is a global leader in providing must-attend annual ITSM conferences, leadership forums and events that bring industry experts and IT and business professionals from around the world.

This year, the 21st Annual International IT Service Management Conference & Exhibition in Las Vegas, “Pink17,” is being hosted February 19-22, 2017. The conference is widely recognized as the world's largest and most respected ITSM event.

For more information about Pink17 visit [www.pinkelephant.com/pink17](http://www.pinkelephant.com/pink17)

## **About Pink Elephant**

We Lead The Way! A premier global training, consulting and conference service provider, Pink Elephant has an undisputed reputation for leading the way. We’re proud of our pioneering and innovative spirit, which has enabled us to introduce and spearhead many revolutionary concepts and programs since our inception 40 years ago.

To learn more about Pink Elephant and our full portfolio of training, consulting and conferences, visit [www.pinkelephant.com](http://www.pinkelephant.com)

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