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Business awards deadline looms

THERE is just a week left to enter this year's **National Business Awards** (NBA) which showcases the country's most promising and successful companies.

Previous winners include Wolverhampton-based toy maker Wow! Stuff, smoothies firm Innocent Drinks, kids travel bag firm Trunki, high-wire activities specialist Go Ape! and finance website moneysupermarket.com.

Julie Meyer, chief executive of Ariadne Capital, and one of the judges for the Entrepreneur of the Year prize, said she would be looking for "exceptional leaders who are executing strategies extremely well".

"I want to see an understanding of how markets are developing and

how they have seized opportunities. It always comes down to execution combined with leadership," she said.

Other categories include Small to Medium Sized Business of the Year, the Innovation Award, the Private Business of the Year and *The Daily Telegraph* Award for a Decade of Excellence in Business.

Wow! Stuff managing director Richard North said: "Only a few months ago we presented to a major US retail customer and had our NBA win at the forefront. Now we have a listing of 14-15 products with them, worth millions of dollars. If you're thinking of entering the awards, just go for it."

The deadline is June 15.

