



# 'Recession Proof' Network short listed for Entrepreneur of the Year Award

LEONARD Line Transport, a Leitrim North transport company, is a member of The Pallet Network (TPN), one of Ireland's most successful transport industry businesses.

TPN chairman, Owen Cooke, has recently been nominated for the prestigious Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, 2009.

Leonard Line Transport was established 20 years ago and currently employs 11 staff with a fleet of 8 trucks.

The company serves businesses in Leitrim North and strives to provide its customers with a reliable and competitively priced freight service, both nationally and internationally.

TPN recently announced revenues of €9.2 million for 2008 and has projected a turnover of €10.5 million for 2009, despite the current economic downturn.

Principal Seamus Leonard, said, "As a long standing member of the Pallet Network, we are delighted that Owen Cooke and TPN have been nominated for this prestigious business award and we offer our congratulations. Naturally, we are hoping that he wins, because it is a great reflection on Leonard Line Transport and validation for the staff and the services that we provide to

our customers."

Entrepreneurs representing companies with a combined turnover of 1.25 billion and employing more than 14,000 staff are set to compete for the title of the 2009 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

The shortlist of 24 announced recently was selected from a competitive pool of over 110 business and individual entries received from

across the island of Ireland.

"Despite the current economic situation, TPN's business model is relatively recession proof," said Owen Cooke. "Leonard Line Transport, and each of the other network members throughout Ireland, have made significant contributions to the overall success of TPN. We offer local hauliers like Leonard Line Transport a service that

surpasses what is offered by multinational transport operators. TPN enables Irish owned transport companies like Leonard Line Transport to provide Irish businesses with access to a high quality, reliable, fast and flexible delivery service throughout Ireland and to the UK and Europe. This service enables the customer to receive their goods by their local carrier."



Pictured are Enda Kelly, Ernst & Young and Owen Cooke, Chairman of TPN, at the announcement of Owen's nomination for the prestigious Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year, emerging category, 2009. Local company, Leonard Line Transport, which is a member of TPN, said they were delighted that Owen and TPN have been nominated for this prestigious business award and offered their congratulations. TPN is one of Ireland leading distributors of palletised goods and provider of pallet transport and sortation systems.