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Photo caption: Webbs Executive Chairman Ed Webb, (left) and Chief Executive Boyd Douglas-Davies (right) and staff celebrate their win for the second year running

Webbs retains top UK garden centre crown

Delighted staff at Webbs, in Wychbold, Worcestershire, are celebrating success after being officially crowned the best garden centre in the UK for the second year running.

The family-owned firm scooped the top prize of UK Garden Centre of the Year 2008. The title was announced after rigorous inspections by judges from The Garden Centre Association (GCA), the organisation representing the best garden retailers in Britain.

Webbs was told it had retained the title of Best Garden Centre in the Midlands before Christmas, but had to wait weeks for the final nail-biting announcement of the overall UK winner.

Webbs beat around 160 other garden retailers to retain its position. Each year, every GCA garden centre member goes through a very stringent standards' audit where independent inspectors arrive unannounced and judge all aspects of their businesses.

Judges revealed that they chose Webbs particularly because of its helpful staff, excellent signage, being an easy place to shop with wide paths and aisles and attention to detail. They also praised the philosophy of excellence in all areas by all staff.

Executive Chairman Ed Webb said the firm is honoured to win the title again, and sees it as a reflection of a huge team effort.

He added, "To win Best Garden Centre in the UK once was a great achievement to win it for a 2nd year is absolutely fantastic. The competition

was fierce, everyone wants to win the title and it is due to the dedication, skill and knowledge of our staff that we achieved it."

Webbs has won many awards over the years ensuring it is consistently among the top garden centres in the country. The family business includes the garden centre and beautiful landscaped riverside gardens, which are open free to the public.

Note to News Editors:

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