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Building firm's regional honour

SIP Build Ltd., a specialist building company based in Widnes, has outperformed hundreds of hopeful new businesses to become a regional winner in the 2007 HSBC Start-Up Stars Awards.

The national contest, now in its seventh year, is designed to seek out the most promising new businesses in the UK and to recognise the entrepreneurial talents behind their creation.

David Ball (44), Dr. Sanjay Pitalia (44) and Peter Barr (32), who started SIP Build two years ago, are now hoping to clinch one of the top titles and take a share of the Awards' prizes, worth a total of £85,000 this year.

Widnes-based SIP Build Ltd designs, manufactures and builds housing using SIPs – structural insulated panels.

The eco-friendly building material comes from sustainable and managed plantations, using 50% less wood than a conventional timber frame building, and is ten times more efficient in terms of insulation than traditional materials.

SIP Build has grown rapidly over the past 18 months and now leads the UK market in its field. Currently building 359 SIP houses in Manchester, as well as two hotels and over 30 self build projects currently on site, they have recently signed an agreement with a leading UK housebuilder which should see a major increase in production.

Congratulating SIP Build on their success, Simon Wainwright, Chief Operating Officer for HSBC Commercial Banking, said: 'SIP Build can be very proud of their success in such a keenly contested fight and we wish them luck in the national finals,' he said.