



Mr Stephen Remp receives his award from Mr David Steel yesterday.

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## Achievement award goes to American

By JAMES DOW, Our Business Editor

An American businessman based in Aberdeen was the winner yesterday of the Scottish Business Achievement Award 1985.

Made by the Scottish Business Achievement Trust and supported by *The Scotsman*, the Scottish Development Agency and British Airways, it went to Mr Stephen Remp (38), founder of Ramco, the oil services group which has established an international reputation in the maintenance and inspection of oilfield tubulars.

The award, handed over by Mr David Steel, MP, given to a young business person in Scotland, under the age of 40, who has shown outstanding achievement in business in the preceding year — and Mr Remp was chosen from an impressive list of nominations.

Mr Remp founded the company in 1977 and it has gone from strength to strength. Last year it made a successful debut on the unlisted securities market and announced a joint deal with the Ben Line, of Edinburgh, to expand the range of Ramco's North Sea services in the Far East.

Pre-tax profits for 1984 were £910,000, on a turnover of £10.1 million. The company is now valued at around £10 million. The turnover in 1979 was £658,000. The original company backers were North Sea Assets, Scottish Offshore Investors and Harrisons Clyde, the Glasgow shippers.

At yesterday's ceremony, the managing director of Scotsman Publications, Mr Roger Ridley-Thomas, said the quality of

entrants was particularly high, reflecting the growing standard of achievement in Scotland by businessmen under 40.

"It is also clear that there is a greater national awareness in Scotland of the purpose of this award, which is now generally accepted as being an important recognition of merit," he said.

Mr Steel, in presenting the award, said he wanted to see profit-sharing a key plank in the national drive for economic recovery. When combined with enlightened policies on consultation, it helped break down the "us and them" alienation of many employees from the enterprises in which they worked.

Divided factories did not produce high-quality goods and divided factories did not give an efficient service, he said. If, by contrast, each employee had a stake in success, financial and psychological, morale and performance could be transformed.

Mr Steel told the gathering of leading Scottish businessmen: "As leaders of our industry, your task must be to help ensure that partnerships can be built in our community which will guarantee its survival."