

**Client:** Direct Selling Association  
**Source:** Thurrock & South Essex Independent  
**Date:** 29/11/2018  
**Page:** 2  
**Reach:** 10000  
**Value:** 19.32

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## Saleswoman's star shines in national awards

A THURROCK woman has been awarded a 'Star of the Year' Award at the UK's Annual Direct Selling Awards.

The national awards, hosted by the Direct Selling Association (DSA), the trade body for direct selling in the UK, recognise the best individuals in the industry at an annual ceremony, held this year at the Leicester Marriott Hotel.

Grays-based Katherine Skupien decided when her daughter was born that, in order to spend as much time at home with her as possible, she'd need a source of income that offered flexibility as

well as freedom, to supplement her already successful, but time intensive, photography business.

Following a recommendation from a friend, and a leap of faith, Katherine joined the sales force for 'MONAT', a luxury vegan haircare brand.

Katherine quickly built a strong customer base which has now grown to a team of over 250 people. In just six months, Katherine has qualified for a Land Rover/Jaguar as part of the MONAT car programme, and will be jetting off to Nashville in 2019 to take part in the MONAT Leadership Event.

Andy Smith, Chairman of the Direct Selling Association, comments: "This year's awards saw some exceptional nominations made by companies showcasing some of the very best talent in our industry, so I'm delighted to offer my sincere congratulations to all our winners."

Natalie Ingham, UK Sales Director for Monat, adds "Katherine has shown tremendous commitment, drive and enthusiasm and we were delighted to nominate her for this award.

"We can't think of a more deserving recipient. Congratulations, Katherine."



■ Winner Katherine Skupien is presented with the Star of the Year Award by Natalie Ingham, UK Sales Director for MONAT.