



NESsT
GOLDEN EGG
AWARD



*Promoting excellence and international
role models in venture philanthropy.*

For immediate release

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NESsT to present “Golden Egg Award” for excellence in venture philanthropy to Zoltán Tóth of 3i

NESsT, a pioneer in applying a ‘philanthropic investment’ approach to supporting social enterprises in emerging markets, is presenting its fifth International Venture Philanthropy Award (the “NESsT Golden Egg Award”) to Zoltán Tóth of 3i Investments plc, at the CEE Private Equity Forum in London, October 18.

LONDON [OCTOBER 15, 2007] – [NESsT](#), an international, nonprofit venture philanthropy organization with offices in Brazil, Chile, Hungary, Peru, Romania and the USA, has announced that it will present its **International Venture Philanthropy Award**, known as the “**NESsT Golden Egg Award**,” on October 18th in London. The NESsT Golden Egg was established in 2001 to promote excellence in the field of venture philanthropy and to celebrate international venture philanthropy role models. The Award will be presented during the **Annual CEE Private Equity Forum**, an annual event organized by **C5** to bring together private equity and venture capital professionals active in the Central & Eastern European (CEE) region.

In honor of NESsT’s 10th anniversary, the 2007 NESsT Golden Egg will be awarded to **Zoltán Tóth**, a member of the Central & Eastern European buyouts team at **3i Investments plc** in Budapest and London. The Award recognizes Mr. Tóth’s leadership as one of the most active advisors, donors and volunteers to the NESsT Venture Fund in CEE. “Zoltán is a great philanthropic role model for his peers. He has been incredibly generous to NESsT as a donor as well as with his time and network of contacts. He has raised awareness of venture philanthropy among his colleagues and friends across Europe, helping to build confidence in our work among the private equity industry,” said Lee Davis, NESsT’s Co-Founder & CEO.

Mr. Tóth has supported NESsT since 2001, providing one of the first donations from a private equity profession to support NESsT’s International Venture Philanthropy Forum in Budapest and then, subsequently, as a personal donor to NESsT. He has also been an active member of the NESsT Business Advisory Network (BAN), helping advise NESsT on investments to social enterprises in the NESsT Venture Fund portfolio in CEE. He joined the NESsT Europe Supervisory Board in 2002 and has since helped NESsT to build a strong network and profile among private equity professionals across Europe.

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“I have joined the Business Advisory Network and the European Supervisory Board of NESsT because of NESsT’s innovative ways of supporting good causes in less developed countries,” says Tóth. “and because NESsT fosters an efficient use of donor’s money in the organizations it supports, and because I have a high regard for the NESsT team.”

Tóth will be the fifth venture philanthropist to receive the NESsT Award. Since 2004, the Award has been presented at the C5 Forum: in 2006 to **William Watson** of SGAM Alternative Investments, in 2005 to **Brian Wardrop** of DBG Eastern Europe, and in 2004 to **Daniel Lynch** of 3TS Capital Partners. The Award was first presented at the NESsT International Venture Philanthropy Forum in Budapest (October 2001) to Mr. **George Roberts**, founding partner of private investment firm Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & co. (KKR), in recognition of his efforts in founding REDF, a venture philanthropy fund in San Francisco.

The 2007 Golden Egg Award itself is an original sculpture commissioned by NESsT from **Gordon Senior**, a California-based artist from England. Born in Yorkshire, Senior is now Chair of the Art Department at California State University, Stanislaus.

Prospective recipients of the NESsT Golden Egg Award are identified based on nominations from NESsT staff, Board members, and advisors around the world.

About Zoltán Tóth: Zoltán Tóth has over fifteen years experience in corporate finance, consultancy and private equity. Mr. Tóth is a member of the buyout team of 3i, the publicly traded UK private equity house, where he focuses on opportunities in CEE. Formerly he headed Advent International’s office in Budapest from 2000 to 2005 and lead several investments across Central Europe. Previously he worked for the Boston Consulting Group in the USA and Hungary, and he managed one of the first private equity funds in Hungary. Mr. Tóth received a BA from the Budapest University of Economics in Hungary and an MBA from Harvard Business School.

About C5: Convener of the [CEE Private Equity Forum](#), C5 is a London-based group of companies spanning five continents dedicated to leading edge business information, high level conferences, executive forums and publications including: EuroForum (UK), EF International, EuroLegal, the American Conference Institute and The Canadian Institute.

Visit: <http://www.c5-online.com/ceepef06.htm>

About NESsT: Founded in 1997, NESsT works to solve critical social problems in emerging market countries by developing and supporting social enterprises that strengthen civil society organizations' financial sustainability and maximize their social impact. Since 1997, NESsT has provided capital and mentoring to over 1000 social enterprises in 38 countries, transforming thousands of lives and demonstrating entrepreneurial solutions to critical social problems in emerging market countries. Visit: www.nesst.org and www.nesst.org/anniversary.

About the artist **Gordon Senior**: www.gordonsenior.com

More information on the NESsT Golden Egg Award is available at:
http://www.nesst.org/furthering_award.asp

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