



MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 3rd December 2009

Melbourne's North Celebrated Business Successes and announced the Inaugural NBAA Business of the Year Awards winners presented by The Hon Peter Batchelor MP, Minister for Energy, Resources and Community Development

Melbourne's north is rapidly becoming renowned for its innovative companies achieving success in competitive environments. So to encourage continuing accomplishment amongst businesses, The Northern Business Achievement Awards (NBAA) have been created as a series of business breakfast events designed to:

- acknowledge and celebrate the successes of Small-Medium enterprises (SME's)
- offer opportunities for valuable networking
- learn and exchange ideas

Mick Butera, Executive Director, NORTH Link said 'The breakfasts have been an important opportunity to acknowledge the successes of SME's within Melbourne's north and also encourage and stimulate growth and development amongst business'.

The Awards are aligned with NORTH Link's aim of development, marketing and promotion of Melbourne's north, by recognising local business achievement, encouraging innovation and excellence. Each breakfast has featured a high profile business speaker who focused on current challenges and trends for SME's. Award nominees also gave a short presentation outlining their business achievements, innovation and the relevant trials and tribulations that have accompanied them!

Mr Butera said 'This has been a great opportunity for businesses to gain insights and different perspectives from their peers; whilst providing motivation and the tools to achieve their own success and accomplishments. The breakfasts have encouraged networking and provided valuable access to well informed speakers and presenters'.

The NBAA Awards are a partnership of industry, education, local and state government and decision makers across Melbourne's north and essential events for those seeking to do business in the region. The Awards have fostered and encourage businesses in the region to achieve business excellence, growth and competitiveness.

Each breakfast has had an attendance of over 250 made up of business people, local government representatives, award nominees, students and principals from local schools.

The Grand Finale Breakfast for 2009 was hosted today (Thursday 3rd December 2009) by the City of Yarra and the Mayor, Cr Amanda Stone. There were presentations by the Young Business Achiever, Veronica Angotti, Make-A-Wish Foundation, and Award Nominees, Scott Kilmartin (haul) and Cam Hines (Mountain Goat Brewery).

The 2009 Awards were presented by The Hon Peter Batchelor MP, Minister for Energy, Resources and Community Development and Rod Quantock, Comedian enthused the crowd with his candid insight into the world of business.

NBAA 2009 winners were:

2009 NBAA AusIndustry Innovation & Enterprise Award – Zeobond
2009 NBAA Customer Service Award – MODEC
2009 NBAA Human Resources Award – Chocolatier (Australia)
2009 NBAA Export Award – Lovitt Technologies
2009 NBAA Business of the Year Award – Chris' Dips & Yoghurts

Further breakfasts will be held throughout 2010. For more details please visit the website www.nbaa.com.au

The Northern Business Achievement Awards (NBAA) have been created by NORTH Link with funding from the Victorian Government and the support of the Cities of Banyule, Darebin, Hume, Moreland, Whittlesea, Yarra and the Shire of Nillumbik.

For more information or Sponsorship opportunities please contact Mick Butera, NORTH Link on (03) 9479 3339.

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