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NATIONAL SAFETY AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission (SRCC) 2009 Safety Award winners were announced last night at a gala dinner held at the Great Hall, Parliament House, Canberra.

Now in their ninth year, the safety awards recognise and reward excellence in workplace health and safety, rehabilitation and return to work achieved by employers and individuals within the Comcare scheme.

Organisations under the Comcare health and safety jurisdiction, including all Commonwealth public service agencies and private sector licensees, were eligible for the awards.

This year a record number of entries were received from both private and public sector organisations. Over 400 guests attended the presentation dinner last night where the six winners were revealed.

Professor Niki Ellis, Acting SRCC Chairperson, said "The Comcare scheme has achieved some of the highest standards of safety and rehabilitation in the country, and to be an award finalist is a significant achievement".

"The winners demonstrated a high level of passion, energy and commitment to making our workplaces safer. Fewer work-related injuries and more effective rehabilitation of injured employees mean a more productive and engaged workforce", Professor Ellis said.

The winners of the five award categories are:

Category 1: Leadership Award for Injury or Disease Prevention and Management

TNT Australia for *Leading from the Top*

Category 2: Best Workplace Health and Safety Management System

Australian Institute of Marine Science for *Scott Reef Research Program Safety Management System*

Category 3: Best Solution to an Identified Workplace Health and Safety Issue

Australian air Express for *Opening Doors to a Safer Workplace*

Category 4: Best Individual Contribution to Health and Safety

Sub-category a) An employee who does not have responsibility for OHS as part of their duties
WO2 Bruce Ferguson from Department of Defence

Sub-category b) An outstanding contribution by a person with responsibility for OHS as part of their duties

Mr Russell Power from Department of Defence

Category 5: Rehabilitation and Return to Work Award

Australia Post for *Creating a Nationally Consistent Approach to the Provision of Rehabilitation Management*

Winners of categories two, three and four will be submitted for entry in the National Safe Work Australia Awards.

Note: Details of winners are available on www.srcc.gov.au Photos of 2009 SRCC Safety Award winners available.

Ends

Media enquiries: Ph: (02) 6275 0650 Email: media@comcare.gov.au