

MEDIA RELEASE



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FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2009 NATIONAL TRUCKING INDUSTRY AWARDS

The finalists for the 2009 National Trucking Industry Awards have been announced by the Australian Trucking Association (ATA) today, following a high standard of entries across all award categories.

The Chairman of the ATA, Trevor Martyn, said the awards are a crucial part of the industry's calendar because they identify and reward the people who have contributed to taking the Australian trucking industry to a higher level of professionalism.

"The National Trucking Industry Awards are an important part of the trucking industry's effort to promote the commitment and achievement of individuals and organisations within the industry," Mr Martyn said.

"The quality of this year's finalists is impressive and include some of the most dedicated and committed figures in the industry, all of which deserve to be recognised," he said.

The 2009 National Trucking Industry Award finalists are:

- **National Professional Driver of the Year**

- Bill Taylor (Ballarat, VIC), Robert Machin (Townsville, QLD), Bruce McCleary (Berri, SA).

- **National Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Trucking Industry**

- Mackay Road Accident Action Group (Mackay, QLD), Newcastle and Hunter Region Road Transport Awareness Group (Newcastle, NSW).

- **National Trucking Industry Woman of the Year**

- Carol Single (Walkerston, near Mackay, QLD), Dianne Carroll (Yarragon, VIC), Kathy White (Summerholm, near Gatton, QLD)

Also presented on the night will be the Training Excellence Award and the Don Watson Memorial Award.

"Given the calibre of the finalists, and indeed of all the entries, the judges have obviously had a difficult task. The industry is eagerly anticipating the announcement of a winner among these deserving finalists," Mr Martyn said.

The award winners will be announced on Thursday, 23 April at the Gala Awards Dinner at Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre as part of the Australian Trucking Convention, which is being held on the Gold Coast from 21-24 April.

The details of the finalists are attached. For more information visit www.ataevents.net.au

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National Voice of the Australian Trucking Industry

National Professional Driver of the Year- Finalists

Bill Taylor- Victorian Truck Moves Ballarat, VIC

Bill is a devoted family man whose driving record speaks for itself. Throughout his career, which has spanned nearly 50 years, he has shown a great respect for the road, holding an unblemished driving record. He is now involved in encouraging older drivers to stay on the road, as they are the men who helped build this vital industry.

Robert Machin – Hawkins Road Transport Townsville, QLD

In Robert's long career with Hawkins Road Transport he has gained the highest level of trust and respect from his employer and their customers. Robert takes a proactive approach to safety. He has an outstanding driving record, including no recorded traffic offences from 1949 to the present day.

Bruce McCleary – Fletcher's Freighters Berri, SA

In his career, which has lasted for 37 years, Bruce has covered some 9.25 million kilometres safely and professionally. He started his driving career at sixteen and has always had pride in his profession, evidenced by the immaculate presentation of his truck. A quiet and unassuming man, Bruce is seen as a role model for younger drivers, not just in South Australia, but also across the country.

Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Trucking Industry - Finalists

Carol and Ian Single – Mackay Road Accident Action Group Walkerston, QLD

Carol and Ian Single are heavily involved in the Mackay Road Accident Action Group (MRAAG). MRAAG is well known throughout the Mackay community, demonstrating that it is possible to achieve positive results through various industries working together to protect their employees out on the road. Through a wide variety of activities, including school appearances, radio and TV advertising and education campaigns, MRAAG have raised the profile of trucking in the community.

Newcastle and Hunter Region Road Transport Awareness Group Islington, NSW

The Newcastle and Hunter Region Road Transport Awareness Group was formed in the early 1990s to improve the public opinion of the road transport industry in the region. To promote the trucking industry the group set about organising the annual Newcastle Truck Show. Now in its 15th year the show continues to be a great success and has helped raise \$720,000 for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

National Trucking Industry Woman of the Year Award- Finalists

Carol Single – Single Transport Services Walkerston, QLD

Carol has been heavily involved with the Mackay Road Action Awareness Group and Safety Committees for almost 30 years. She is passionate about road safety and has been a key player in the Eton Range project and the dangers the area poses to drivers. Carol is a dedicated member of the Australian trucking industry. She has been a long term supporter of improving safety standards and actively volunteers her time for the betterment of the trucking industry.

Dianne Carroll – Trans-Help Foundation Ltd Yarragon, VIC

Dianne volunteers her time to Trans-Help Foundation as Managing Director and CEO. She is the driving force and backbone of the foundation, which offers support to Australian transport personnel and their families when in need, whether that be due to depression, anxiety, health issues or even suicide. She comes from a family with over 50 years in the trucking industry and is a constant promoter of the importance of the industry to the whole of Australia.

**Kathy White – Lights on the Hill Memorial Inc
Summerholm, QLD**

Kathy has over 30 years experience in the trucking industry, and is well known in regional and remote areas for her promotion of industry causes. She has been featured on many regional TV and radio programs. Kathy organises many charity events and is the founder of the Lights on the Hill Memorial in Gatton, Queensland which remembers those who have been lost in the transport industry. Kathy believes in giving back to the trucking industry that has given her so much.