

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## HUNTER ORGANISATION TAKES OUT NATIONAL TRUCKING AWARD

Hunter-based transport organisation, the Newcastle and Hunter Region Road Transport Awareness Group, has been named as the 2009 winner of the National Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Trucking Industry.

The 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 heading into its 15<sup>th</sup> year, the show continues to be a great success and has helped raise much needed funds for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

In his acceptance speech, Association President, Peter Cross said the support of the community was the reason the group had become such a success.

"The success of our event is a testament to not only everyone in the trucking industry who has been involved in what we do, but also the wider Hunter community," Mr Cross said.

"The community support we receive is incredible. It has allowed us to give back to the same community that has supported us.

"In the fourteen years we have run the event we have been able to raise \$720,000 for the Westpac Rescue Helicopter. In fact, in the last five years we have raised over half a million dollars for a service that is very important to the people of the Hunter."

The National Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Trucking Industry is part of the National Trucking Industry Awards, which are announced each year at the Australian Trucking Convention. This year's convention is being held on the Gold Coast.

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.

"Listening to the winners speak on the night provides a strong indication of why they won – they all have tremendous passion for our industry, and an uncompromising commitment to its improvement," Mr Martyn said.

The National Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Australian Trucking Industry is sponsored by Trader Business Media, publisher of ATN and Owner Driver and the ATA's Foundation Sponsors: BP, NTI and Volvo.

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**Please note:** More information on the award winners can be found at [www.ataevents.net.au](http://www.ataevents.net.au). High resolution images of the award winners are available for media use by emailing [bauched@atatruck.net.au](mailto:bauched@atatruck.net.au) or [mckinleyb@atatruck.net.au](mailto:mckinleyb@atatruck.net.au). To arrange an interview with any of the winners contact the ATA communications team on the numbers above.

*National Voice of the Australian Trucking Industry*