

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## TOWNSVILLE TRUCK DRIVER NAMED AS FINALIST FOR NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL DRIVER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Townsville based truck driver for Hawkins Road Transport, Robert Machin, has been named as a finalist for this year's National Trucking Industry Professional Driver of the Year Award. The award is presented annually as part of the Australian Trucking Convention and is an important part of the industry's effort to promote the commitment and achievement of individuals and organisations within the industry.

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.

Other finalists for the 2009 National Trucking Industry Awards have also been announced by the Australian Trucking Association (ATA), 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 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.

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.

For a full list of the finalists for the National Trucking Industry Awards or for more information about the Australian Trucking Convention, visit [www.ataevents.net.au](http://www.ataevents.net.au)

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*National Voice of the Australian Trucking Industry*