

Prime Minister acknowledges importance of facilities management at industry awards

Attended by a representative of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition, the highly prestigious FM Industry Awards for Excellence Gala Dinner has rapidly become the facilities management (FM) industry's night of nights, turning the spotlight on those who design, create and manage the immediate world around us.

The Awards, which were held at the Grand Hyatt Melbourne last week, is presented by the industry peak body, the Facility Management Association of Australia (FMA).

FMA CEO Nicholas Burt said, "With facilities management now employing over 200,000 people and contributing more than \$20 billion annually to the economy, the Awards celebrate the vision and innovations of the individuals and organisations who are meeting the many complex challenges of our built environment, and thereby allowing all of us to live and work safely, practically and affordably in this fast changing world."

The Hon Mark Dreyfus QC MP, Cabinet Secretary, Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency presented the Contribution to Energy Efficiency Award on behalf of the Prime Minister. Steven Ciobo MP attended on behalf of the Leader of the Opposition.

In a statement read by Mr Dreyfus, the Prime Minister said, "None of us, from the Prime Minister to the most junior office worker, could get through a single day without the great work of your industry... Congratulations to the 2012 Awards winners and to the Facility Management Association of Australia."

Mr Burt said, "This year the Awards attracted a record number of high calibre nominees, and I congratulate every one of them, but in particular the winners in each category. The work they do is invaluable and I urge them to keep striving for excellence."

"In addition, I would also like to thank the nearly 400 Award attendees for their generosity, raising \$13,800 in less than three hours in support of our Corporate Charity Partner Whitelion/Open Family Australia."

A major highlight of the night was the presentation of Facility Manager of the Year to Brad Collins, National Facilities Manager for Cromwell Property Group. With 17 years' experience and currently managing a portfolio of 28 assets worth \$2.4 billion and a team of 14, Brad was among eight other award recipients who have excelled in Australia's rapidly growing FM industry over the past year.

This year's winners of the FM Industry Awards for Excellence were:

Facilities Manager of the Year

Brad Collins, Cromwell Property Group
Michael Barlow, Five D Holdings Pty Ltd (Highly Commended)

Young Achiever of the Year

Glen Cooper, Leighton Contractors - Services Division
Matthew Brancato, Jones Lang LaSalle Telstra Account (Highly Commended)

Consultant of the Year

Kingfisher Recruitment

Impact on Organisation & Workplace

Spotless Managed Services - Housing NSW Contract

Service Provider of the Year

Department of Customs & Border Protection Account Team (Jones Lang LaSalle)

In-House Client Team of the Year

Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Industry Innovation

1200 Buildings Program - Environmental Upgrade Finance (EUA)

Sustainability & Environmental Impact

Water Efficiency - Perth District Court (Brookfield Multiplex Services)

Contribution to Energy Efficiency

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