

Business Excellence Awards 2010

CAPRICORN TOURISM & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ERGON ENERGY
BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2010



everything in our power



Quarry exports quality product

CAPRICORN Sandstone Quarries has well and truly proven itself as a worthy advocate for the Trade Queensland Emerging Export of the Year Award at this year's Business Excellence Awards.

Operated by the Gough family since 1994, Capricorn Sandstone Quarries has been supplying quality dimension stone to its extensive client base for many years.

The quarry itself has been in operation for well over a century, its sandstone having been used in many landmark buildings in Rockhampton such as Customs House, the Old Post Office and St Paul's and St Joseph's Cathedrals.

Site senior executive Reece Gough and his team, who have been exporting for only a little over two years, were thrilled to be recognised for their achievements.

"Our export clients buy sandstone for large luxury residential projects in China, so they demand large volumes and consistency of supply of our premium colours," Reece said.

"The villas in these projects sell for more than \$5 million each, so our clients



Member for Keppel Paul Hoolihan and Glenn Cooper (Seven Rockhampton) present Reece Gough of Capricorn Sandstone Quarries (centre) with the Trade Queensland Emerging Exporter of the Year Award. PHOTO: STEPHEN J VIT

have to have confidence that our stone is the best that they can buy.

"The same applies to our customers in New South Wales and Queensland – our stone has a reputation for being of high quality and sought after by architects for restoration and commercial projects."

Since Capricorn Sandstone Quarries began exporting in 2008 the business has increased its exports from zero to more than 70% of their total

business last year.

"We managed to weather the GFC and even increased our overall sales during that uncertain period, all thanks to our export commitments."

As well as their successful exporting sector, Capricorn Sandstone Quarries supply sandstone locally for building projects, retaining walls and landscaping.

For more information, visit www.capricornsandstone.com.au or call 4934 7336.

Night of celebration for all

THE 2010 Capricorn Tourism & Economic Development and Ergon Energy Business Excellence awards were a great night of celebration for a number of businesses.

Highlighting the excellence in business of local organisations, through a range of different award categories, the awards have given this year's hard-working businesses an opportunity to celebrate their commitment to the local community and creation of jobs.

And while not everyone can be a winner, Kennas Chartered Accountants and Financial Services have worked closely with Capri-

corn Tourism and Economic Development to create the award for promising businesses that showed potential for award-winning success in the future.

Leading Edge Telecoms were the winners for the CQHR Prize Package, while the Kennas "Destined for Greatness" Mentoring Opportunities Award was given to Alliance Training Solutions Qld, New Horizons Safety and Training Services and the Power Saving Centre.

Kennas business partner Jeff Carlos said each business was a worthy participant for the award, demonstrating potential for further levels of excellence

with business development.

"The Kennas Destined for Greatness Award is awarded to three businesses that did not win a specific category award but that the judges felt could benefit from a one on one mentoring consultation specific to their business," he said.

Kennas Chartered Accountants and Financial Services offered a range of services including providing strategic planning to keep businesses ahead of the field, ideas to grow businesses and generate more profits, preparation of business plans and valuations as well as a host of financial planning services.



Jeff Carlos from Kennas presented "Destined for Greatness" Mentoring Opportunities to Tony Thomas (New Horizons Safety and Training Services), Peter Dein (Alliance Training Solutions Qld) and Peter Ross (Power Saving Centre) with Glenn Cooper (Seven).



Winners of the CQHR HR Prize Package, Robert and Aleks Ludwig from Leading Edge Telecoms. PHOTOS: STEPHEN J VIT

Authentic brands beef up reputation for best cattle

ASTRONG passion for the Australian Beef Industry, and in particular the beef industry in Central Queensland, has led to Signature Beef Pty Ltd's success in winning the Trade Queensland Exporter of the Year at this year's 2010 Capricorn Tourism and Economic Development and Ergon Energy Business Excellence Awards.

Managing director Blair Angus and his wife Josie were very excited to have received the award.

General manager Peter

Howard and office manager Sandra Howard received the award on behalf of the company at the award evening.

Over the decades the Angus family have strived to produce the world's best beef.

"The strength of our company is that the cattle come first," Blair said.

"We don't follow the latest trend or fashion. We don't simply blend cattle from far and wide into branded cartons or a production line.

"Our brands are authentic. Each carton is a stamp of commitment from cattle-men and women with a true passion for their product," he said.

Signature Beef's clients include a range of chefs, butchers, wholesalers and supermarkets.

They pride themselves on caring for the land, for their stock and for the experience from each and every meal they produce.

"Whilst we are a company with a very traditional culture we are always looking forward to innovate and be the first in new market opportunities," he said.

"Signature Beef is now establishing a new company based on the ground in China, Kimberley Prime Beef (Beijing) Trading Company Ltd to further progress opportunities in China."

The company is also expanding into developing supply partnerships for other beef producers who are committed to the product they produce.

Solutions meet clients' needs

WITH a strong sense of community service in the region, it's no surprise that Community Solutions have won CQUniversity Australia Community Contribution of the Year Award at this year's Business Excellence Awards.

Starting out as a voluntary network on the Sunshine Coast and offering predominantly youth-based and drug prevention services between 1991 and 1998, Community Solutions has since expanded to new locations in Queensland (including Rockhampton) and new service areas including employment and training.

Community relations ambassador Des Ryan said the organisation is unique in that it provides diversified community services, develops essential community assets and facilitates partnerships between community, business and government sectors.

He said the team was excited to receive the award.

"It is terrific to have a community service organisation recognised for its 'business' in conjunction



Marina Mikecz, Jeannine Harrington, Des Ryan and Ann Wendt from Community Solutions team (front) excited to accept the CQUniversity Australia's Community Contribution of the Year Award from Professor Scott Bowman and Glenn Cooper of Seven Rockhampton (behind). PHOTO: STEPHEN J VIT

with the many other excellent businesses and organisations who participated in the awards," he said.

"This is tremendous recognition for our committed staff and volunteers."

Des said the organisation's clients had come to expect quality, innovative and result-orientated services.

"As our clients have varying needs and vastly different backgrounds, it is essential that we tailor our services and provide a personalised approach to each and every client.

"The success of our

organisation is underpinned by 'good people' who operate at a board, management, service and volunteer level."

Community Solutions aims to further expand into additional Queensland regions where they can add benefit, providing a profound and sustainable contribution within local communities.

The organisation aims to identify future social needs and sector trends to meet the ever-changing needs of their clients. For more information visit www.comunitysolutions.org.au.



Paul Hoolihan with Peter Howard receiving an award on behalf of Blair and Josie Angus of Signature Beef, winner of Trade Queensland's Exporter of the Year Award, and Glenn Cooper (Seven Rockhampton). PHOTO: STEPHEN J VIT