



The Crane Industry Council of Australia

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ABN 73 002 565 773

PO Box 136, Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149 • Unit 10, 18-22 Lexia Place, Mulgrave, Victoria 3170

Telephone: 03 9501 0078 • Facsimile: 03 9501 0083

Email: admin@cica.com.au • Website: www.cica.com.au

Lifting Industry Standards

MEDIA RELEASE

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Cranes Lift Hobart's Profile

***370 delegates attended the 2013 CICA National Conference, Exhibition and Crane Display
- Held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart.***

The Crane Industry Council of Australia (CICA) is the peak national body for the crane and lifting industry in Australia. The 2013 CICA annual conference was successfully held at the Hotel Grand Chancellor, Hobart, 11-13 September 2013. "The major factor in holding the event in Hobart was the drive to locate the key elements in one spot," said Alan Marshall, the CICA Chief Executive Officer. "Our state host was the Victorian Crane Association (VCA) who were instrumental in the decision to go to Hobart," noted Alan.

"Our Conference traditionally includes an outdoor crane display, a two-day speaker program and trade exhibition. Holding the crane display alongside our past venues has been challenging. With the wonderful support of the Hobart Council and Business Events Tasmania, CICA was able to close down Hunter Street, alongside the historic wharf area - and this is where we held our Crane Display. We had 16 mobile cranes on display and the sight of these massive, high-tech cranes with booms reaching for the clouds, alongside the waterfront was magnificent," said Alan. "Cranes, boats, water, historic Hobart, imposing Mt Wellington as a backdrop; plus the option to take a few extra days to tour Tassie – what more could you ask for," added Alan.

"I have been saying it all year, that Hobart is one of the best capital city locations for a conference in Australia," remarked Alan. "Based on member feedback and our conference results with great support from 370 delegates, Hobart has been a first class winning location. Everyone loved it. Sure, the weather was a bit chilly at times, but the mostly sunny days were lovely, adding to the amazing scenic spectacle," said Alan.

Key highlights of the Conference included: the Crane Display; Brant Webb as an early keynote speaker; internationally acclaimed wire rope expert Roland Verreet; various technical presentations; the Manufacturer's Panel led by international heavy weights from Liebherr, Terex, Manitowoc, Link-Belt and Tadano; the launch of the CICA Financial Education and Benchmarking Program; an update from the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator; the Lift of the Year Awards; some wonderful networking, food, entertainment and more.

"I've spoken with John Gillespie (CICA President), Brenton Salleh (VCA President), Kristian Pritchett from SpanSet (Platinum Sponsor), and many other very satisfied delegates, sponsors, and exhibitors," noted Alan. "The strong message is that the location and event was overall a great success, despite the mixed economic times, so I thank the industry for its great support," said Alan.

"The Gala Awards Dinner is always a crowning finale to the Conference," enthused Alan, "The Lift of the Year Award winners were announced, being - Category A (over 130t): Universal Cranes and Category B (under 130t): Gillespies Crane Services. The CICA Bill Shaw Memorial Award for the Best Overall Lift was announced with Universal Cranes receiving the perpetual Cup. An added feature was the announcement of the new CICA Excellence Awards," noted Alan.

"CICA now looks forward to the 2014 Conference, taking place in Sydney, 24-26 September at the Olympic precinct Allphones Arena and The Dome. Our Platinum Sponsor is Kennards Hire – Lift & Shift," said Alan in closing. For further Information on this Media Release contact:

Alan Marshall, Chief Executive Officer
The Crane Industry Council of Australia

Ph: 03) 9501 0078; Mob: 0418 822 926; Email: ceo@cica.com.au

CICA is the peak, national not-for-profit association for the Australian Crane Industry. For public information on CICA's role and activities please refer to the CICA website www.cica.com.au and/or the CICA CraneSafe website www.cranesafe.com.au.