Australia & New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards

The institute
AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND INSTITUTE OF INSURANCE AND FINANCE

media release

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Winners of 2008 Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards Announced

The Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards honoured the insurance industry's best and brightest companies and individuals in front of a sold out audience of more than 700 insurance industry leaders at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre last night.

The awards, hosted by the Australian and New Zealand Institute of Insurance and Finance (the Institute) and founding partner Asia Insurance Review (AIR), recognise outstanding achievement in the Australian and New Zealand insurance marketplace.

The winners of the 2008 Australia and New Zealand Insurance Industry Awards were:

Law Firm of the Year - Minter Ellison

Broker of the Year - Marsh

General Insurance Company of the Year - Suncorp

Life Company of the Year - MLC

Loss Adjuster of the Year - TJ Sinclair & Associates

Premium Funder of the Year - Pacific Premium

Reinsurance Company of the Year - Munich Re

Risk Manager/Team of the Year - Guild

Service Provider of the Year - Finity

Services to the Community Award - TIO

Innovation of the Year - Stream Group

Insurance Leader of the Year - Andrew Penn

The Australian Federal Treasurer, the Hon Wayne Swan MP, took the welcome step of adding a new category to the industry awards this year and, in collaboration with the Institute, established the Good Governance and Practice Award.

The award recognises an organisation that has developed practices and procedures that effectively promote the highest levels of corporate governance and social responsibility.

The winner of the 2008 **Australian Treasurer's Good Governance and Practice Award** is Marsh.

Now in their 5th year, the awards, which were emceed by radio and television personality James O'Loghlin, have cemented their position as the premier insurance industry event, uniting the entire industry in celebration of outstanding achievement.

Joan Fitzpatrick, CEO of the Institute said, "I would like to congratulate the winners of the awards for their success against a strong field, congratulations are also due to the finalists in each category. This year's submissions demonstrated a sophisticated industry that is focused on innovation and customer service. The calibre was as high as it has ever been and after 5 years of these awards that should no longer surprise."

"These awards serve to highlight the dedication to professional excellence and the commitment to best practice that the insurance industry places upon itself," she said.

Sivam Subramaniam, editor-in-chief of AIR, agreed, saying that the industry's commitment to recognise and salute excellence was clearly overwhelming last night.

"Australia is a market that continues to shine with innovation and professionalism in the region's insurance industry. It is a fact that the professionals and executives in the market can be very proud of," he said.

Each award category is adjudicated by a distinguished panel of 13 Australian, New Zealand and international judges to determine the winners, and independently audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers to ensure proceedings are conducted with the greatest integrity.

The Institute and AIR would like to thank the major sponsor for this year's event, A.M Best, and award category sponsors: Aon Australia, KPMG, Swiss Re, Zurich, SSP, Elders, Gen Re, QBE Australia, Munters, FCm Travel and Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia.

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