

EXCELLENCE IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT SECTOR

Consulting excellence in Australia's built and natural environment sector was celebrated last night as the industry recognised those projects and firms that demonstrate best-practice in their fields.

Consult Australia's Chief Executive Officer, Megan Motto said the standard of entries submitted for the 2012 Awards demonstrates the world-class level on which the industry operates and their potential in the emerging markets of Asia and on a global scale.

"In our globalised and interconnected business community and in the face of severe skills shortages and constrained spending, business excellence is now more important than ever," said Ms Motto.

"We are pleased to celebrate the remarkable successes of Australia's professional services firms: their innovation; technical prowess; their focus on diversity and the fight they put up in a global competition for work."

The inaugural small, medium and large Firm of the Year Awards were presented to: Holmes Fire; BG&E; and GHD respectively.

Winning projects included: the Royal Children's Hospital; 1 Bligh Street; the Brisbane Airport Link; Fiona Stanley Hospital; the Northern Missing Link expansion project; and the Emirates Park Towers Hotel in Dubai.

The Awards also celebrated initiatives focused on female participation; Indigenous employment; and sustainable practices through staff development and recognised a number of individuals who demonstrated outstanding commitment to the industry.

Recognised as one of the biggest events in the industry, the Awards attracted over 350 senior representatives from firms including: AECOM; Arup; Brown Consulting; GHD; Hyder Consulting; Parsons Brinckerhoff; Sinclair Knight Merz; SMEC; URS Australia; WorleyParsons.

"Particularly at a time of political uncertainty and restrained spending, it is important to consider those industries that support the vision for Australia's future and to recognise the enormous contribution our industry makes to this country's economic, social and environmental fabric," said Ms Motto.

Ends

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For further information or to arrange an interview, please contact PR & Policy Coordinator, Gillian O'Young on (02) 9922 4711 or via email at gillian@consultaaustralia.com.au.

ABOUT CONSULT AUSTRALIA

Consult Australia is the association for professional services firms within the built and natural environment; influencing policy, creating value and promoting excellence.

Consult Australia's member firms services include, but are not limited to: design; architecture; technology; engineering; planning; landscape architecture; surveying; and project management. The Association represent some of the industry's biggest players in this space with its member firms collectively employing more than 58,000 staff.