

# Contact

Magazine Summer 2006

Winner of the  
2005 ECA/Clipsal  
Apprentice of the Year Award

*David O'Connor*

Electrical and Communications Association - news and views



David is pictured here with his employers (L to R) Neil Fallon (retired), Matt Fallon (General Manager) and Mark Denning (Managing Director) of Neil T Fallon Electrical Contractors.

# 2005 *end of year* EXTRAVAGANZA



Formality, Fun & Frivolity – all in one evening! That was the ECA Extravaganza. Saturday November 26th saw the Hilton Brisbane come alight with 340 electrical and communication industry party goers.

The ECA Extravaganza not only celebrated the festive season but also showcased the 2005 ECA/Clipsal Apprentice of the Year Awards and the ECA Outstanding Achievement Awards.

## *list of winners:*

### Apprentice of the Year:

First Place: David O'Connor  
Employer: Neil T Fallon Electrical

Runner Up: Andrew Wightman  
Employer: Electro Group Apprentices  
Host Employer: John Goss Projects

Highly Commended: Joseph Marinelli  
Employer: Tableland Electrical Service

### ECA Outstanding Achievement Awards – Projects:

Corfield Electrical: Industrial  
Richard Flanagan & Company: Construction  
Wondai Electrical: Residential  
Electricians Plus: Commercial

Individual Achievement Award:  
Ron Powell



David being congratulated by ECA President Geoff Baldwin and Clipsal Regional General Manager (Qld), Greg Milne.





From left: Joseph Marinelli, David O'Connor, Andrew Wightman, Martin Holland, Tony White, Richard Flanagan, Ron Powell, Leanne and Owen Blamires.

# outstanding achievement awards and apprentice of the year awards 2005

This year after consulting with various industry advisors the Awards recognised the achievements made across the entire electrical industry bringing together a variety of participants making this event a fantastic way to showcase the extraordinary efforts of our industry.

Thanks must go to the judging panel, Steve Downey, Harry Hollis, Rod Cullen and Callum Ford. The judging panel had an extremely difficult task in narrowing the nominations to four distinct outstanding achievers. Judging over 200 pages of nominations, projects ranged from residential, high-end data, commercial projects and industrial projects. Each project was judged on its own merit,

the judges identifying unique aspects and challenges of the project. Judges interviewed Contractors and their clients to clarify the scope of works. Congratulations to our 2005 Award winners.

Please see the next issue of Contact Magazine for profiles on the Outstanding Achievement Award Winners for 2005.

The Apprentice of the Year Awards were jointly organised by ECA and Clipsal who have a long established history of supporting and nurturing Apprentices and apprentice training in Queensland.

Apprentices shared the fabulous evening with their employers, host employers, Group Training Organisations, industry representatives, family and friends.

Prior to the event, nominees were questioned by a panel of judges on an array of topics including industry knowledge, the various acts, regulations and different types of electrical accessories and their uses. Nominees were also tested on fault finding, resuscitation and electrical safety.

The judging panel this year consisted of Greg Milne; Clipsal Australia, Don Currell; Electrical Safety Office, Rod Cullen; ECA, John Johnson; ECA, Bob Pearson; Bob Pearson Electrical and

Paul Prior from Brisbane North Institute of TAFE.

The Winner of the Queensland Electrical Apprentice of the Year Award, David O'Connor from Neil T Fallon Electrical Contractors thanked the Sponsors for the opportunity they provide to highlight the up and coming Apprentices in our industry.

The Apprentice Awards can be proudly displayed as a symbol of Excellence as they are won through skill, dedication and passion for the job. ECA and Clipsal are committed to the training and development of young Apprentices, acknowledging that they are certainly the future of our industry.

Once the Extravaganza formalities were over, many were rocking to the tunes of the Nik Phillips Association while enjoying a three course traditional Christmas dinner. Chris 'Buddha' Handy entertained the crowd with his humour and got the crowd relaxed and ready for some fun.

The Extravaganza could not have been such a highlight on the Industry Event Calendar without the help of our event sponsors Haymans Electrical, Ideal Electrical, Lumley Insurance, Rittal & Phoenix Contact & Schneider Electric. Thanks to these sponsors, many guests were fortunate enough to take home some wonderful lucky door prizes which

included a weekend away to some magnificent hotels and resorts on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane. ECA would like to acknowledge the Sheraton Mirage Gold Coast and the Brisbane Hilton for also donating some fabulous packages for the evening.

Start thinking about your nominations for this years 2006 awards. It is a fantastic way to show your industry what great work your company has been a part of and to acknowledge the standout achievements throughout the year. If you require further information about how you can become involved please do not hesitate to contact ECA on (07) 3251 2444.



From left: Group from Corfield Electrical Service, Boyne Smelters and Geoff Baldwin, David O'Connor - Apprentice of the Year, Andrew Wightman - Runner up and Joseph Marinelli - Highly Commended.

