

media release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PHOTOGRAPH CAPTION: The 2009 National Safety Awards of Excellence Awards Lawyers/Category Sponsor presents Gladstone Regional Council Director of Environment and Regulation Ron Doherty and Council's Waste Coordinator Scott Prior with a Highly Commended Award at the recent National Safety Awards of Excellence in Sydney in recognition of the EveryTip™ System invention.

Council recognised for safety invention

Gladstone Regional Council has received a Highly Commended Award from the 2009 National Safety Awards of Excellence held in Sydney recently for its submission of the EveryTip™ System invention.

The award recognised the innovative work of Gladstone Regional Council Waste Coordinator Scott Prior and independent designer Kevin Stewart who worked in consultation with Council safety officers in designing a device aimed at countering falls from heights at waste transfer stations.

Council's Occupational Health and Safety Manager Simon Graham said the award was one of only two Highly Commended Awards from across eight categories of the National Safety Council of Australia hosted awards.

Mr Graham said it was also noted that Council's submission was the only invention for the 2009 awards.

The National Safety Council had earlier this year inspected the EveryTip™ system in action before announcing it as a contender in the Best Solution of an 'Occupational Health and Safety and Environment Specific Workplace Risk' category.

Other finalists in this category included: Australian National Maritime Museum; Clipsal; (Wingfield Division); CSIRO Livestock Industries and Ipswich City Council.

Mr Graham said EveryTip™, currently on trial at Gladstone Regional Council's Gladstone Transfer Station, was an innovative solution designed to reduce risk and enhance current waste delivery methods.

"Mr Prior, in consultation with local manufacturer Kevin Stewart, worked on the EveryTip™ prototype, in his own time," Mr Graham said.

"Modular and easy to move, the EveryTip™ system is an open-topped, four sided collection bin comprising one drop side, which allows users to back their vehicle directly to the bin, rather than to the edge of the open pits.

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"Once waste has been deposited on to the system's loading belt, a transfer station operator activates a barrier system to isolate the user prior to lifting and tilting the bin to unload it into an adjoining pit. Once empty, the belt is then lowered to the ground for reloading.

Mr Graham said the National Safety Awards was well-earned recognition for all involved and highlighted Gladstone Regional Council's innovative and proactive approach towards assessing and managing OH&S risks.

"EveryTip™ represents a clever solution to a long-standing safety risk at transfer stations."

MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Occupational Health and Safety Manager Simon Graham on 4975 8100.