



2009 Premier Regional Business Awards

• A PRESENTATION OF THE GREATER DANDENONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE •

Fantech fantastic

By Lia Bichel

FANTECH has blown away its rivals to win the 2009 Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce Premier Business Award.

The stand out Dandenong South business was presented the award on Tuesday night's awards ceremony, attended by about 340 guests.

Fantech has made its mark in Australia with its expertise on fan and acoustic technology. It has developed and implemented new and innovative products for almost every air movement and ventilation need, as well as noise solutions.

Premier Regional Business Awards committee member James Sturgess said the prestigious award recognised the "best of the best".

He said Fantech was a well organised company, which was one reason it took the top notch. "They are really clear about where they are going and how they are going to get there," he said.

Mr Sturgess said two aspects of the business particularly impressed him.

"They are committed to and implement lean manufacturing, and they dominate the market with their catalogue of products.

"It (catalogue) is essentially a bible in the industry with its technical information."

Fantech has achieved several milestones in the past 37 years, including launching the Fantech brand, accreditation to ISO9002, the launch of a hard cover catalogue, development of a product selection software CD program, and moving in October 2008 to a purpose built facility in Dandenong South.

However, its most notable achievements would be its involvement in a variety of distinguished projects in Australia, including the world's tallest residential tower in Surfers Paradise, Federation Square in Melbourne, the Crown Casino complex and the 21FC Building in Hong Kong.

Mr Sturgess said Fantech had been a positive for the Dandenong area. "They are an organised and successful company with a really bright future."



The winning Fantech team (from left) marketing services manager Frank Cosentino, engineer Ben Lowersen, quality assurance officer Christine Thompson, production/site technical manager Pat Moynihan, managing director Chris Ogilvy, marketing IT co-ordinator Stuart Bryson, chamber president Robert Downing, customer service coordinator Alistair Sobotker, senior purchasing officer Manfred Adam, chairman Jack Pirie, Victorian operations manager Rob McLaren and marketing director Paul de Bruin. Absent: national operations manager Brad Ackehurst.



Workers including Brad Ackehurst and John Pratt have helped Fantech take out this year's Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce Premier Business Award. 43505 Pictures: Donna Oates



Iqbal Sadique, Brad Ackehurst and Chris Fabian at Fantech Pty Ltd.

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Winner

Fantech Pty Ltd



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Council's Economic Development Unit is proud to support local businesses, foster economic development, employment growth and investment into the Greater Dandenong area.

Congratulations to our leading businesses on their nomination for the Premier Regional Business Awards and to our winners.

For more information on how we can assist you - contact the Economic Development Unit on 9238 1550 or visit our website

www.greaterdandenong.com



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Above:
Pat Maynihan, Kalvin Nicholls-Harrison and Hayden Chittleborough have contributed to an award-winning business.

Left:
Jimmy Hillas stands out.

Right:
George Atu working at Fantech.

43505



Committed to providing comfort

By Bridget Cook

COMMITMENT to customer service, product development, technical expertise and high quality products has seen employment award winner Fantech propel to the forefront of its industry.

These factors have been major contributors to the company's growth from a humble start to an organisation with more than 300 employees, plus a nine-figure turnover.

The company started in 1973 when

two United Kingdom engineering immigrants formed a small business called Air and Noise equipment.

It has become an industry leader of fan and acoustic technology, and has developed and implemented new and innovative products for almost every air movement and ventilation need, as well as noise solutions.

The company has been involved in a number of notable projects including the world's tallest residential tower in Surfers Paradise, Federation Square in

Melbourne, the Crown Casino complex and the 21FC Building in Hong Kong.

Fantech's commitment to customer service goes beyond providing high quality products; it has developed software specifically for customers' needs.

It is committed to lean manufacturing and implementing key processes and systems to maximise operations' efficiency.

National operations manager Brad Ackehurst has been responsible for this

part of the business for more than a decade.

He said he hoped to ensure Fantech remained competitive and a leader in the industry.

"We want to expand on our use of technology to help speed up information available through our systems to provide better service," he said.

"Basically we will use process mapping tools to identify bottlenecks and work with our staff to find the best ways around them."

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