



CELEBRATING CANTERBURY BUSINESS EXCELLENCE, PASSION AND SUCCESS

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30PM TUESDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2010

### **CANTERBURY CHAMPIONS DEMONSTRATE RESILIENCY**

An outstanding line up of 42 finalists were in the running at this year's Champion Canterbury Awards held last evening at the Christchurch Convention Centre with over 1,000 of Canterbury leading businesses in attendance.

The event which was originally scheduled to run on the 9<sup>th</sup> September, was postponed after learning the full extent of the damage to city services and in particular in the central city following the 4<sup>th</sup> September earthquake said Peter Townsend Chief Executive of the Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of Champion Canterbury Ltd.

The sellout attendance at last night's Awards Ceremony is just another testament to the ongoing resolve of Canterbury businesses and reinforces their resilience and desire to celebrate local business achievement, during what have been, and still are, trying times" said Mr Townsend.

The Press 2010 Champion Canterbury Supreme Awards were awarded to Dynamic Composites for Small Enterprise and Whale Watch Kaikoura Ltd for Medium/Large enterprise by the Honourable Gerry Brownlee, Minister for Economic Development and Andrew Boyle, General Manager of The Press.

Also acknowledged were the key attributes of many of the finalists which were summarised by this year's theme for the Awards of 'Growing Strong through Change'.

"Common themes from this year's finalists included the way in which they have challenged traditional ways of doing business during the tough economic times, increased their investment and commitment to research and development, formed strategic partnerships to overcome potential impediments and continue to be committed to their

employees and doing business in Canterbury” Leeann Watson, General Manager of the Canterbury Employers’ Chamber of Commerce and Director of Champion Canterbury Ltd.

2010 also saw the inclusion of a new Award – the CDC Innovation Award which recognised a breakthrough idea or innovation by a Canterbury based company which, if commercialised, has the potential to transform the business in question, and contribute towards the economic development of the Canterbury region.

“With an offer of \$100,000 of equity in the winning company by the Canterbury Economic Development Fund, ShapeShifter Technology Limited were thrilled when they were announced as the CDC Innovation Award Champion” said Mrs Watson.

In addition to the category Awards, Special awards were also given to leading charities for the AMI Insurance Charity Award, Search and Rescue Institute New Zealand (SARINZ) and Cancer Society of NZ Canterbury West Coast Division, with both organisations playing a pivotal part in our community.

Presbyterian Support Upper South Island was awarded the 2010 ACC Workplace Safety Award for their commitment to health and safety in the workplace. This special Award recognised that Presbyterian Support Upper South Island have developed exemplary workplace safety systems and procedures and enjoy the economic benefits that a ‘safety first’ approach can foster.

A Special Commendation was bestowed on the Honourable Philip Burdon for his outstanding contribution to the Canterbury community including on-going investment he contributes through Meadow Mushrooms, now one of New Zealand’s largest privately owned organisations.

“Through a family of sponsors and judges, these awards are a great demonstration of how Canterbury works together to position itself as a leading region” said Leeann Watson Director of Champion Canterbury Ltd. “Now in their 8<sup>th</sup> year, these Awards continue to grow year after year and are now widely recognised across New Zealand as the largest business awards in the country.

A fact that we can be tremendously proud of and another example of how Canterbury businesses can lead the way and punch above their weight” says Mrs Watson.

A full list of the finalists and winners is listed below.

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## WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

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### 1. CHAMPION PRODUCER/MANUFACTURER

#### 1A. CHAMPION PRODUCER/MANUFACTURER SMALL ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: K9 Natural Foods Ltd, Theophany Loudspeakers Ltd

WINNER: **DYNAMIC COMPOSITES**

#### 1B. CHAMPION PRODUCER/MANUFACTURER MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: SKOPE Industries Limited, Talbot Technologies Ltd

WINNER: **COOKIE TIME LIMITED**

### 2. CHAMPION GLOBAL OPERATOR

#### 2A. CHAMPION GLOBAL OPERATOR SMALL ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: Pivot Software Limited, Platinum Safety Limited

WINNER: **REDESIGN GROUP**

#### 2B. CHAMPION GLOBAL OPERATOR MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: Jade Software Corporation Limited, The New Zealand Merino Company Limited

WINNER: **CHRISTCHURCH ENGINE CENTRE**

### 3. CHAMPION HOST

#### 3A. CHAMPION HOST SMALL ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: Adrenalin Forest Ltd, Charlie B's Backpackers

WINNER: **SHOWBIZ CHRISTCHURCH**

#### 3B. CHAMPION HOST MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: Canterbury Museum, Christchurch International Airport Limited

WINNER: **WHALE WATCH KAIKOURA LTD**

### 4. CHAMPION SERVICE

#### 4A. CHAMPION SERVICE SMALL ENTERPRISE

FINALISTS: Fisheye Films Limited, Murray & Co, NZ Tax Refunds Ltd

WINNER: **SHEFFIELD SOUTH ISLAND LIMITED**

**4B. CHAMPION SERVICE MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE**

FINALISTS: Air New Zealand Ltd, CORE Education Limited

WINNER: **CANTERBURY WASTE SERVICES LTD**

**5. CHAMPION RETAIL**

**5A. CHAMPION RETAIL SMALL ENTERPRISE**

FINALISTS: Raxworthy Autobody Repairs Limited, Soeur Design Limited

WINNER: **MERCATO LIMITED**

**5B. CHAMPION RETAIL MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE**

FINALISTS: PaknSave Moorhouse

WINNER: **AVON CITY FORD**

**6. THE AMI INSURANCE CHARITY AWARD**

**6A. THE AMI INSURANCE CHARITY AWARD SMALL ENTERPRISE**

FINALISTS: Family Help Trust, Youthline Central South Island

WINNER: **SEARCH AND RESCUE INSTITUTE NEW ZEALAND (SARINZ)**

**6B. THE AMI INSURANCE CHARITY AWARD MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE**

FINALISTS: Royal New Zealand Foundation for the Blind, The Order of St John

WINNER: **CANCER SOCIETY OF NZ CANTERBURY WEST COAST DIVISION**

**7. ACC WORKPLACE SAFETY AWARD**

FINALISTS: Arc Innovations, Christchurch Engine Centre

WINNER: **PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT UPPER SOUTH ISLAND**

**8. CDC INNOVATION AWARD**

FINALISTS: Christchurch Engine Centre, Metalcraft – The Glass Racking Company

WINNER: **SHAPESHIFTER TECHNOLOGY LIMITED**

**THE PRESS CHAMPION CANTERBURY SUPREME AWARD SMALL ENTERPRISE**

WINNER: **Dynamic Composites**

**THE PRESS CHAMPION CANTERBURY SUPREME AWARD MEDIUM/LARGE ENTERPRISE**

WINNER: **Whale Watch Kaikoura Ltd**

## FINALISTS & WINNERS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER WITH BRIEF DESCRIPTION

- **ADRENALIN FOREST LTD**

Adrenalin Forest is a unique outdoor adventure activity provider. We enable people to step out of their comfort zones in a safe and controlled environment: our high wire courses.

- **AIR NEW ZEALAND LTD**

Air New Zealand is the national airline of New Zealand. Having over 1700 "Air New Zealanders" based in Canterbury provides employment, economic and tourism benefits to the Canterbury region. We fly people and cargo to, from and within New Zealand with our unique kiwi service and style.

- **ARC INNOVATIONS**

Arc Innovations, the New Zealand leader in the development, deployment, and management of advanced meter infrastructure (AMI) technology and services, having successfully deployed the first large-scale metering network in Australasia.

- **AVON CITY FORD**

**Avon City Ford is one of New Zealand's leading Ford dealers, providing for all your motoring needs, including the sale of new and used vehicles, a parts and service department and panel and paint facility. We also have a used parts operation, Suzuki motorcycle dealership and provide driver training both private and corporate.**

- **CANCER SOCIETY OF NZ CANTERBURY WEST COAST DIVISION**

**The Cancer Society is a community and volunteer-based organisation, serving the Canterbury/West Coast region. Core services are: cancer support - information and advocacy services; health promotion, prevention and education programmes; the funding of cancer research and health professional development.**

- **CANTERBURY MUSEUM**

Canterbury Museum is one of the region's premier cultural attractions. The Museum's popularity with both locals and tourists continues to grow, with total visitation exceeding expectations year on year.

- **CANTERBURY WASTE SERVICES LTD**

**The delivery of a world-class, environmentally safe, transport and disposal system for the residual waste of Canterbury residents and businesses, which is fully integrated with community waste minimisation objectives.**

- **CHARLIE B'S BACKPACKERS**

Charlie B's Backpackers accommodation is a long established business, welcoming and hosting up to 150 international and domestic visitors everyday to the Canterbury region.

- **CHRISTCHURCH ENGINE CENTRE**

**Christchurch Engine Centre provides maintenance services for commercial jet engines. Christchurch Engine Centre has a world-wide reputation for quality and exceptional service.**

- **CHRISTCHURCH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED**

As New Zealand's tourism Gateway, Christchurch Airport's key objective is to support growth of flights and passengers to the South Island.

- **COOKIE TIME LIMITED**

**Based in Christchurch since 1983, Cookie Time Limited manufactures high quality snack foods (cookies and muesli bars) from its factory in Templeton.**

- **CORE EDUCATION LIMITED**

CORE's mission is to push the boundaries of educational possibility. Its work across the educational sector concentrates on opportunities to raise learner achievement through engaging educators in 21st century learning approaches.

▪ **DYNAMIC COMPOSITES**

**Dynamic Composites have been pushing the boundaries of what is possible in composite technologies for over ten years. A focus on innovation, creativity and a "nothing is too hard" attitude has produced world beating products.**

▪ **FAMILY HELP TRUST**

Family Help Trust employs a team of skilled, professional social workers in the homes of those Canterbury infants at the greatest risk of child abuse, assisting families to escape dysfunction and disadvantage.

▪ **FISHEYE FILMS LIMITED**

Fisheye Films is an independent television production company specialising in quality documentaries, commercials, corporate videos and stock footage. From concept to delivery, we focus on innovation, excellence and service.

▪ **JADE SOFTWARE CORPORATION LIMITED**

Jade Software Corporation is a global product innovator with over 30 years' experience. We design, develop and deploy market leading software products and high performance technologies for specialist markets.

▪ **K9 NATURAL FOODS LTD**

K9 Natural Foods Ltd manufactures and markets a raw natural dog food. The company sales are growing at a rate of 300% year on year with the predominate growth being in export sales.

▪ **MERCATO LIMITED**

**Mercato essential food ingredient market is a must visit destination for foodies who want the taste of Europe without having to leave NZ. It's a place to sample, buy and learn.**

▪ **METALCRAFT – THE GLASS RACKING COMPANY**

Metalcraft – The Glass Racking Company is a Christchurch based metal fabrication company which supplies NZ, Australian, Pacific, and USA customers in the flat glass industry with world leading trucks, vans and factory equipment.

▪ **MURRAY & CO**

Murray & Co is a Canterbury-owned investment bank which provides professional, expert, independent financial advice through its three divisions: Corporate Finance, Wealth Management and Private Equity.

▪ **NZ TAX REFUNDS LTD**

NZ Tax Refunds (NZTR) is a specialist online tax refund company, the pioneer of the industry. The company assists its clients to receive their share of the millions of dollars in overpaid tax held by the Inland Revenue Department (IRD). This service is efficient, cost-effective and without risk for thousands of clients.

▪ **PAKNSAVE MOORHOUSE**

PaknSave Moorhouse Ave is the largest retail supermarket in the South island and is part of the Foodstuffs Co-operative.

▪ **PIVOT SOFTWARE LIMITED**

Pivot Software provides human resource software that enables organisations to improve the effectiveness and gain more control over complex human resource processes like remuneration and performance management.

▪ **PLATINUM SAFETY LIMITED**

Platinum Safety research, develop and implement innovative business software solutions specialising in industrial safety, risk management and the environment, with a customer base exceeding 600 clients worldwide.

- **PRESBYTERIAN SUPPORT UPPER SOUTH ISLAND**  
**Presbyterian Support Upper South Island is a not-for-profit social service agency working for a just and inclusive society, helping people, families and communities to function well.**
- **RAXWORTHY AUTOBODY REPAIRS LIMITED**  
Raxworthy Autobody Repairs Limited is a leader in the collision repair industry, and has been family owned & operated in Canterbury over the past 42 years.
- **REDESIGN GROUP**  
**Redesign Group is a commercial interior design company specialising in the hospitality, retail, airport food and beverage sectors providing services for design, project management and construction in the offshore markets.**
- **ROYAL NEW ZEALAND FOUNDATION OF THE BLIND**  
The Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind (RNZFB) is New Zealand's primary provider of vision-related habilitation and rehabilitation services to blind and partially sighted people.
- **SEARCH AND RESCUE INSTITUTE NEW ZEALAND (SARINZ)**  
**SARINZ is NZ's international training centre of search and rescue excellence. We train volunteers to bring the lost home safely, sooner and with increased probability of success. Motto: Helping others save lives.**
- **SHAPESHIFTER TECHNOLOGY LIMITED**  
**ShapeShifter Technology specialises in providing innovative Computer Aided Design (CAD) solutions to apparel manufacturers around the world. ShapeShifter focuses on delivering supply chain efficiencies through automation and optimisation of the production process ultimately resulting in a significant reduction in material consumption.**
- **SHEFFIELD SOUTH ISLAND LIMITED**  
**Sheffield finds, evaluates and develops leaders. Combining rigorous search and selection methodologies together with sound judgement and internationally recognised organisational development principles, Sheffield partners with clients to build their leadership capability and enable them to enhance their organisation's performance.**
- **SHOWBIZ CHRISTCHURCH**  
**Producer of world class musical theatre .... developing local talent in music , dance and performing arts, and providing affordable show entertainment for the people of Canterbury and for visitors to Christchurch.**
- **SKOPE INDUSTRIES LIMITED**  
Operating since 1945, and owned by the Robert Stewart Family for more than four decades, SKOPE Industries Limited designs, manufactures and supplies commercial refrigeration, food service and heating products globally.
- **SOEUR DESIGN LIMITED**  
Soeur retails and manufacturers its own fashion label. We support and promote New Zealand artists and have two retail stores, Christchurch and Martinborough. Agents throughout New Zealand sell through home functions.
- **TALBOT TECHNOLOGIES LTD**  
Talbot Technologies is a plastics technology partner that works with design teams all over the world to create plastic parts and assemblies for medical appliances, electronic devices, mass transportation vehicles, and home appliances that encompass world-leading technology.
- **THE NEW ZEALAND MERINO COMPANY LIMITED**  
The New Zealand Merino Company Limited, based in Christchurch, is an integrated sales, marketing and innovation company for the New Zealand Merino industry, and is the leading marketer and seller of New Zealand Merino, nature's performance fibre.
- **THE ORDER OF ST JOHN**

St John is a charity that provides care to all New Zealanders, through ambulance services, public first aid training and innovative programmes such as Friends of the Emergency Department and our Youth Programme.

▪ **THEOPHANY LOUDSPEAKERS LTD**

Theophany manufactures world class high-end Home Theatre and Hi-Fi speakers that are sold in the national market as well as being exported to Dubai, Belgium, Australia and the USA. Now boasting many national and international awards they continue to lead the market with new products and innovations ahead of their time.

▪ **WHALE WATCH KAIKOURA LTD**

Whale Watch is New Zealand's only marine-based whale watching company offering visitors exciting close encounters with Giant Sperm Whales at all times of the year. With a 95% success rate for sighting Whales, we guarantee an 80% refund if your tour does not see a whale. Whale Watch is located in Kaikoura a scenic 2.5 hours drive north of Christchurch.

▪ **YOUTHLINE CENTRAL SOUTH ISLAND**

Youthline is a youth development organisation, providing telephone, text and email support, an information and referral service, and personal development and leadership courses, assisting young people to reach their potential.

