WRIQ

2025 INDUSTRY AWARDS

Award Winners

2025
Winner's Table

INDIVIDUALS		
	Winner	**Highly Commended**
Driver of the Year	**Brock Jones** JJ's Waste & Recycling	
Industry Professional of the Year	**Larni Beauclerc** REMONDIS Australia	**Andrew Stock** Industrial Metal Services **Mason Grave** Pure Environmental
Maintenance Employee of the Year	**Hendrix Wing Seeto** BMI Group	**Ken Ball** REMONDIS Australia
Plant and Equipment Operator of the Year	**Dillon Bradshaw** Cleanaway	**Taufik Hidayat** BMI Group
Recycling Employee of the Year	**Bernie Whalan** Jackal Renewables	**Cory Bache** BMI Group
Trainee or Apprentice of the Year	**Carter Brown** Jackal Renewables	**Luke Brown** JJ's Waste & Recycling **Te Whare Smith** ResourceCo
Lithium Battery Fire Hero of the Year	**Phil Berry** REMONDIS Australia	**Sunshine Coast MRF Processing Team** Re.Group
COMPANIES		
	Winner	**Highly Commended**
Best Recycled Product	**ResourceCo's Processed Engineered Fuel** ResourceCo	
Environmental Innovation of the Year	**Mil-tek Commercial Gillnet Fishing Collection and Recycle Project** Mil-tek Recycling & Environmental Solutions	**Climate Action Schools Logan Pilot Program** Climate Action Schools
Safety Innovation of the Year	**Asbestos Identification and Exclusion in C&D Recycling** BMI Group	**Brisbane's Autonomous Fire Defence for a Lithium World** Cleanaway & Brisbane City Council
Industry Collaboration of the Year	**Industrial Composting of PHA & PHA-Based Biocomposite Punnets** Phoenix Power Recyclers	**Phytocap Research Collaboration - Cleanaway and Griffith University** Cleanaway

About the WRIQ Industry Awards

The WRIQ Industry Awards recognise outstanding individuals and projects contributing to Queensland's essential waste management and recycling infrastructure and services.

The awards exist to celebrate the often 'unsung heroes' who demonstrate an ongoing commitment to championing the cause through their leadership, mentoring, advocacy, knowledge sharing and action. They inspire us through their achievements and motivate us to make our own contribution to Queensland's waste management and recycling industry.

Through the WRIQ Industry Awards, we aim to showcase excellence in individuals and companies who are making a difference in the field of waste management and recycling. The awards provide a unique opportunity to shine a spotlight on the innovative projects, initiatives, and partnerships that are helping to build a more sustainable future for Queensland.

More than 240 industry professionals gathered at the voco Brisbane City Centre on Friday 5 September 2025 for the WRIQ Industry Awards Gala Dinner, celebrating excellence across eleven award categories.

"The Industry Awards Gala Dinner was an inspiring celebration of the people and organisations who are the backbone of our industry," Alison Price, CEO WRIQ said. *"We applaud the finalists for their outstanding efforts and offer our warmest congratulations to the winners for their exceptional achievements."*

Judges

WRIQ thanks the 2025 judging panel for volunteering their time and expertise to select the 2025 finalists and winners:

- Bret Collins
  Former WRIQ Treasurer
- Bob Eggleton
  WRIQ Life Member
- Rick Ralph
  WRIQ Founder, & Life Member

Awards Sponsors

Thank you to our sponsors, who made the 2025 WRIQ Industry Awards program and Gala Dinner possible, and for their continued commitment to Queensland's waste and recycling sector.

Re.Group

Re.Group is the only Australian company that designs, builds, owns and operates recycling systems. Our vision is to create a wasteless society, where all materials that are disposed of are recycled or reused.

ResourceCo

Operating for over 30 years, the ResourceCo Group is an Australian-owned resource recovery group of companies that diverts in excess of 4.5million tonnes of material from landfill each year. With over 1000 workers, ResourceCo operates in every Australian state, and in Asia, operating facilities and providing services that enable the recycling of construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste, soils and end-of-life tyres.

Labourforce Group

Labourforce Group, established in 1998, specialises in recruitment and workforce solutions for the supply chain, logistics, and industrial sectors in Australia and New Zealand. Services include labour hire, permanent recruitment, RPO, MSP, and workforce consulting. The company prioritises safety, compliance, and operational performance, offering drug and alcohol testing, risk management, and WHS initiatives.

Kennedy's Timbers

Kennedy's Timbers, with 31 years of experience, specialises in supplying reclaimed and sustainable timbers to architects, designers, builders, and homeowners. They offer a diverse range of products including structural and decorative timbers, flooring, decking, cladding, and custom joinery. The team is dedicated to providing expert advice, quality products, and excellent customer service.

BMI Group

BMI RESOURCE RECOVERY

BMI Group is a leader in Waste Management for Resource Recovery, Landfilling and Remediation and the operation of Transfer Stations across the Brisbane, Ipswich and Gold Coast regions. We have extensive experience across a range of waste management practices and waste streams and remain committed to providing sustainable practices, innovative solutions and continual improvements in recovery, recycling and reuse contributing to the circular economy objectives.

Bucher Municipal

BUCHER municipal

Bucher Municipal is a global leader in the development and manufacturing of specialized municipal vehicles. Our comprehensive portfolio includes street sweepers, refuse collection vehicles, sewer cleaning equipment, and winter maintenance equipment. We are committed to innovative technology and sustainable solutions that promote cleaner, safer, and more efficient cities worldwide.









Award Winners - INDIVIDUALS

Driver of the Year

This award recognises the outstanding performance of a professional truck driver, including driving skill, attitude and contribution to industry improvement.

WINNER

Brock Jones

JJ's Waste & Recycling



Brock Jones is a dedicated and reliable team member with a stellar driving record and strong commitment to safety. Brock takes pride in every aspect of his work—from maintaining a clean and tidy truck to being punctual every day. He is always willing to lend a hand, often volunteering to travel away from home to support other departments when drivers are in short supply. Brock's polite and helpful nature shines through in his interactions with colleagues and clients, setting a strong example for his colleagues.

Industry Professional of the Year

This award recognises those who support the waste and resource recovery industry. Nominees may work in HR, accounts, safety, environment, business administration, weighbridge operations and similar roles.

WINNER

Larni Beauclerc

REMONDIS Australia



In 2025, Larni Beauclerc revitalised a fragmented Logistics Administration team, into a high-performing, unified unit with enhanced structure and accountability. Her leadership extended beyond her team, collaborating across multiple sites, driving process improvements, interdepartmental collaboration, and superior service delivery. Larni's influence has gone beyond operations, shaping a culture of mentorship, trust, and measurable success in productivity and accuracy. With strategic acumen, hands-on guidance, and a people-centric approach, Larni consistently exhibits outstanding professional achievement.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Andrew Stock

Industrial Metal Services

Mason Grave

Pure Environmental

Maintenance Employee of the Year

This award celebrates the knowledge and expertise of the individuals who work behind the scenes in the industry's plant, equipment and vehicle workshops.

WINNER

Hendrix Wing Seeto

BMI Group



Hendrix Wing-Seeto is a highly skilled maintenance professional whose technical expertise, innovation, and leadership have transformed operational reliability at BMI Group. With a proven record in preventative and sustainable maintenance, he has improved safety, equipment performance, and cost efficiency. His introduction of advanced systems and data-driven processes has reduced downtime and extended fleet life. As a mentor and role model, Hendrix fosters professionalism and continuous improvement within his team.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Ken Ball

REMONDIS Australia

Plant/Equipment Operator of the Year

This award recognises excellent performance, initiative and all-round attention to detail of a plant/equipment operator.

WINNER

Dillon Bradshaw

Cleanaway



Dillon Bradshaw is a standout plant operator revered for his unwavering commitment to excellence, safety, and leadership. Serving as a Health, Safety, and Environment Representative in Brisbane's Resource Recovery Innovation Alliance, Dillon skilfully combines technical proficiency with a proactive approach to safety. Through mentorship, advocacy, and a dedication to driving cultural transformation, Dillon has left a lasting impact on the company, participating in Cleanaway's national HSER program and receiving recognition from the Safety, Rehabilitation and Compensation Commission. Dillon's exemplary conduct consistently raises the bar for industry standards.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Taufik Hidayat

BMI Group

Award Winners - INDIVIDUALS

Recycling Employee of the Year

This award recognises excellent performance, initiative and all-round attention to detail of an employee within a MRF or composting facility.

WINNER

Bernie Whalan

Jackal Renewables



Bernie is an amazing and unique employee and a key part of the Jackal Renewables team, born with special needs, he lives independently and asks for nothing more than to be treated like everyone else. His gifts of OCD and eidetic memory, ensures every pallet and bag is loaded correctly every time and he recalls delivery drivers' names and companies' details and historic orders better than google. He has adapted and changed the way he has always worked to incorporate new business and has found ways to work with management to keep up with production demand and OHS requirements.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Cory Bache

BMI Group

Trainee or Apprentice of the Year

This award is presented to an individual who is undertaking a traineeship or apprenticeship and has been outstanding in all aspects of their training.

WINNER

Carter Brown

Jackal Renewables



Starting as a part-time employee in the product side of the business in October 2024, with only previous café and retail experience, Carter experienced a big change of pace and work conditions. Despite initial hesitation, Carter quickly settled in and embraced the work, environment and participating as part of a team. Within two months, their commitment and work ethic paid off, earning them a full-time position as a junior operator. Carter completed their probationary period and became a permanent member of the company in March 2025.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Luke Brown

JJ's Waste & Recycling

Te Whare Smith

ResourceCo

Lithium Battery Fire Hero of the Year

This award recognises an individual who has demonstrated safe and effective intervention in controlling and/or preventing lithium battery fires to safeguard facilities, vehicles, or individuals.

WINNER

Phil Berry

REMONDIS Australia



Phil Berry, Leading Hand at REMONDIS' Rocklea Transfer Station, has been instrumental in the safe and effective management of lithium battery fires on-site. With over 14 years of service and a calm, professional approach, Phil has become a trusted leader in high-risk fire response. His ability to swiftly detect, isolate and manage incidents has prevented multiple fires from escalating, safeguarding vehicles, infrastructure, and personnel. As Chief Fire Warden, Phil's vigilance, practical leadership and deep knowledge of fire detection systems have ensured that even dangerous 'hot loads' are handled without disruption to public safety or operations.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Sunshine Coast MRF Processing Team

Re.Group









Best Recycled Product

This award aims to raise awareness and showcase the latest product innovations and designs for recycled products, as well as progress in the application of recycled materials.

WINNER

ResourceCo's Processed Engineered Fuel

ResourceCo



ResourceCo's Processed Engineered Fuel (PEF), produced at its Brisbane Resource Recovery Facility, is a high-quality alternative fuel derived from dry, non-recyclable waste that would otherwise be landfilled. This innovative product transforms materials such as plastics, timber, and textiles into a consistent, high-calorific fuel source used in cement kilns and industrial furnaces. By diverting waste from landfill and replacing fossil fuels, PEF offers a dual environmental benefit, reducing greenhouse gas emissions and conserving natural resources. It is a scalable, circular economy solution that supports decarbonisation goals and enhances Australia's waste-to-energy capability.

Environmental Innovation of the Year

This award seeks to spotlight innovations that are driving positive change in waste management and recycling and circular economy practices.

WINNER

Mil-tek Commercial Gillnet Fishing Collection and Recycle Project

Mil-tek Recycling & Environmental Solutions



Mil-tek partnered with the Queensland Department of Primary Industries and the Endeavour Foundation to launch a statewide initiative to collect, deconstruct, and recycle commercial gillnets. The project diverts hazardous marine waste from landfill, supports sustainability targets, and protects the Great Barrier Reef. The project utilises innovative logistics and spectrometer technology to process surrendered nets at three regional centres and 13 collection points, transforming them into valuable recycled products such as rope rubs and nylon carpets. The program also provides inclusive employment for over 150 Queenslanders, including people living with disabilities.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Climate Action Schools Logan Pilot Program

Climate Action Schools

Safety Innovation of the Year

This award recognises excellence in developing and implementing an innovative solution to an identified health and safety issue.

WINNER

Asbestos Identification and Exclusion in C&D Recycling

BMI Group



Watson Road Resource Recovery has implemented a cutting-edge asbestos identification and exclusion program to address health risks associated with asbestos in recycled materials. The initiative applies a multi-layered, technology and training driven process to detect and manage potential asbestos contamination - minimising human exposure and ensuring only safe, high-quality material is recycled. Combining advanced microscopy, digital tracking, qualified personnel, and rigorous on-site inspections, this innovation has significantly reduced contamination risk and landfill diversion of reusable resources.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Brisbane's Autonomous Fire Defence for a Lithium World

Cleanaway & Brisbane City Council

Industry Collaboration of the Year

This award recognises teams and partnerships that have successfully implemented innovative initiatives, policies or programs to advance resource recovery (including organics processing) in Queensland.

WINNER

Industrial Composting of PHA and PHA-Based Biocomposite Punnets

Phoenix Power Recyclers



Phoenix Power Recyclers are collaborating with the University of Queensland and SDI plastics to research the biodegradation of rigid bioplastic made up of PHA (Polyhydroxyalkanoates) at an industrial composting scale. This novel biocomposite that has been successfully trialled as a strawberry punnet, offers the sustainability benefits of a bio-sourced product while retaining similar properties to mass-produced plastic packaging and containers. The goal is to expand its usage for a variety of food packaging and rigid plastic applications, reducing our reliance on petrol-based plastics with this compostable alternative.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Phytocap Research Collaboration

Cleanaway and Griffith University

WRIQ
Essential for community Essential for environment

Waste Recycling Industry Association QLD
T: 07 3067 3315
E: memberservices@wriq.com.au
A: Level 5, 14 Banfield St, Chermside QLD 4032
W: www.wriq.au