

Environmentally-minded businesses reap rewards

Businesses with sustainability in their sights were rewarded for their efforts at the Waikato Sustainable Business Network Awards recently.

The awards, celebrating businesses making progress towards sustainability, saw 10 companies and organisations rewarded for environmentally friendly efforts.

Dustless cement stabilisation and a pavement-recycling product clinched the network's product design award for Fulton Hogan Waikato, while AgriSea New Zealand scooped the trailblazer award for its overall approach to sustainability.

Paeroa-based AgriSea produces seaweed soil, foliar and pasture and animal health concentrates for the agriculture and horticulture industries.

Fulton Hogan's pavement techniques "significantly reduced" the risk of environmental contamination, particularly air and water pollution.

AgriSea's overall commitment to sustainability in their use of seaweed as a natural resource helped clinch the company's award.

Business network regional manager Kellie Ellis said the awards gave organisations the opportunity to be recognised for contributions towards sustainable development.

Entrants had to take part in the network's Get Sustainable Challenge, including an assessment of business practice, commitment to sustainability, the use and production of resources,

future planning and business systems and relationships.

Waikato winners will vie for national awards, to be announced in October.

More than 550 businesses from throughout New Zealand belong to the Sustainable Business Network, which promotes sustainable business practice through networking, advice and support and research and policy.

Other winners from the Waikato awards are:

Waikato Times Innovation Service Category:

Environmental Award – WEL Green Energy Joint Venture

Highly commended –

Winstones Aggregates

– Whitehall Quarry

Social Responsibility Award –

Environment Centre Hamilton

WEL Networks Innovation

Design Category:

Building Design Award –

Groundworks Greenspace

Highly commended –

McBrides Family Home

Hamilton City Council

Emerging Business Category:

Winner – John Walker Printers Ltd

Highly commended –

Northcare Pukete Pharmacy

Waikato Management

School Trailblazer Business

Category:

Highly commended –

Groundworks Associates

Environment Waikato

Trailblazer Non Profit /

Government Category:

Winner – Waimarie

Community House



ORGANISER Kelly Ellis left and category winners The Greenspace, John Walker Printers, AgriSea, Chris Morrison Chair of Sustainable Business Network and Waimarie Community House. Absent from photo WEL Green Energy Joint Venture and Fulton Hogan.



ACCEPTING awards on behalf of WEL Networks left Dr Julian Elder – Chief Executive Officer for WEL Networks and David Wharmby – Commercial Manger for WEL Networks.



FULTON HOGAN'S recycling machine in action on State Highway 2 in the Hawkes Bay area of New Zealand.