

HISTORY OF THE MACLEAN-IEDEMA AWARD

The industry lost two of its leading lights when Scott MacLean and Don Iedema were killed in a light plane crash in Victoria in 1995.

Don was a senior executive with the large retail irrigation supply chain, Aquafield McCracken, and had played a significant role in the company's expansion.

Scott MacLean was the group's General Manager and, with Don, played a role in the establishment of Irrigation Australia (IAL). Scott has been described as a natural leader and was a national chairman of IAL in its early years. It was his vision to create an expo to bring together the best the industry has to offer. The Irrigation Australia event is now held every two years and moves between major cities. Scott was also keen for IAL to benefit from a permanent CEO, something that has since come to fruition. He was also involved in the introduction of various certification courses in the TAFE system.

IAL and event organisers ETF (Exhibitions & Trade Fairs) instigated an award and cash prize, to recognise MacLean and Iedema.

The award is presented at the Irrigation Australia event, with the winner receiving a special commemorative plaque from IAL and a cash prize donated by ETF.

WHAT THE AWARD REPRESENTS

The award recognises an outstanding individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of the irrigation industry, or a sector of the industry.

The criteria for the award includes:

- 1) Commitment – An outstanding record of commitment to the development of their industry.
- 2) Contribution – The recipient will be judged to have made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the industry. (This contribution may be evaluated in quantitative and/or qualitative terms.)
- 3) Performance – The performance of the individual should be deemed exceptional.
- 4) Persistence – The performance will have been sustained over an extended period of time.
- 5) The Extra Mile – The performance of the individual will extend well beyond the normal demands of the person's occupation, profession or position within the industry.

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE AWARD

In many cases the award has been presented to honour a lifetime of activity, achievement and commitment.

- 1996 - Christine Forster & Primary Industries South Australia, for the Integrated Catchment Management Software (ICMS) Project.
- 1998 - David Morwood – A former senior engineer and Operations Manager with the Water Resources Commission QLD.
- 2000 - Ken Wetherby – Consultant Soil Scientist (SA) who has been instrumental in developing a unique soil survey system.
- 2002 - John Blackwell – Research Scientist / Engineer with CSIRO Land and Water, Griffith Laboratory.
- 2004 - John Mapson – An engineer who has worked with ANCID (Australian National Committee for Irrigation and Drainage) and the Rural Water Corporation.
- 2006 - Ken Crawford – principal consultant, KLC Environmental for groundbreaking research into groundwater and a strong advocate for irrigation over 30 years.
- 2008 - Geoff Connellan – teacher, researcher and trainer since 1977. Author of more than 140 technical publications.