

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**EVENT PLANNERS AUSTRALIA** was named the 2009 National Meetings & Event Management Company (8 or more employees) at the Meetings & Events Australia (MEA) Awards for Excellence. The award follows the company's success as a Queensland state finalist in 2008 and 2009.

Event Planners also received the Queensland award for Association or Government Meeting of the Year for their management of the 23<sup>rd</sup> World's Poultry Congress, held at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre in 2008.

Ray Shaw (AMM), Chairman of Event Planners Australia and Australia's longest serving accredited meeting and event manager, was honoured to accept the two awards on behalf of the company. "Event Planners Australia is a world-class meetings and event management company. We strive to raise the bar of service levels and these awards are recognition of our capabilities and achievements in doing so. These awards provide a valuable opportunity for us to review our internal processes and achievements and be assessed against our industry peers. To be recognised at this highest level is a true testament that we're on the right track," Ray said.

Ray further commented on Event Planners' response to the global financial crisis affirming the period as one of the most challenging to date. "The awards period was the toughest I have experienced in my 37 years in the industry," Ray said. "The recognition we have received from MEA is therefore a huge reward for Event Planners demonstrating our strength and capabilities to come out on top."

Over the past 31 years Event Planners' has gone from strength to strength. Established in Brisbane in 1979 the company expanded in 2004 to be the first truly national meeting and event management delivering localised service with all the benefits of national resources. In 2010 alone Event Planners has further expanded to Hobart, employed 15 new personnel and has further expansion plans in place to

provide its clients with greater national reach and a wide range of complementary services.

“Faced with adversity and challenging times, you can either lay down and take it, or proactively look for the opportunities ahead,” Ray stated. “Fortunately, the latter was EP’s course of action and I give huge credit to our team for their continued efforts.”

**ENDS**

### **About Event Planners Australia**

Event Planners Australia was established in 1979 and currently has offices based in Brisbane, Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide and Hobart; with further expansion plans in place. The company employs over 50 personnel nationally and specialises in providing proactive meetings and event management for association, corporate and government sectors. Event Planners Australia implements a ‘team approach’ to each of their projects to ensure that results are generated for both the company and their clients.

The company offers the unique capability to deliver high levels of personal service locally, with the support and infrastructure of its national operation. With experience in planning and producing in excess of 1000 events and business meetings; Event Planners Australia is nationally recognised as a leading events management organisation whose key motivator is to offer and deliver exceptional service to their clients. The effectiveness of their approach is evident in that over 80% of the company’s client base is repeat business.

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