



MEDIA RELEASE

1 August, 2017

Waste award winner Toxfree endorses AFIA entries *Submissions encouraged from an industry under the spotlight*

The VTA's introduction last year of an Australian Freight Industry Award recognising outstanding achievements of operators in the waste and recycling sectors was a winner, with the association receiving numerous applications from those keen to demonstrate their commitment to innovation.

Inaugural winner Toxfree contested the award because as a business it had implemented numerous policies and innovations to safely transport waste, with the judging panel agreeing measures introduced by the company contributed to safety and sustainability within the industry.

VTA CEO Peter Anderson said it was more important than ever for waste and recycling industry operators to contest this award to showcase the work the sector is doing to ensure recycling is safe and sustainable for the long-term.

"The waste and recycling industry is under the spotlight, especially in Victoria where a government taskforce is looking at systems and procedures in place at key recycling sites after a recent fire," he said.

"There is no doubt the industry is doing it tough because of less demand for recycled goods, but we know operators are making prudent investments to improve safety and sustainability within their workplaces.

"These achievements deserve to be celebrated so I encourage waste and recycling transport operators to get involved and submit an entry for these important awards," he said. "We know you do great things, and the communities you service need to know about it too."

Toxfree General Manager, Industrial Services Scott Russell agreed, saying Toxfree were very proud to be awarded the Australian Transport & Logistics Waste Award last year.

"For us, the award recognised the policies and innovations we have in place nationally to transport all types of waste, including industrial, hazardous, construction and medical in the safest way possible," Mr Russell said. "We were honoured to be nominated for this prestigious award and were very proud to receive it as it reflects our core values of Safe, Reliable and Sustainable."

This year, the Waste & Recycling Award recognises implementation of a policy or program and/or a technology innovation that improves sustainability. Applicants for this and the other five award categories have until Monday, 14 August to submit entries.

Criteria and entry forms are [online](http://www.vta.com.au) at www.vta.com.au or by contacting the VTA on 03 9646 8590 or [email reception@vta.com.au](mailto:reception@vta.com.au) Winners and finalists will be announced at a presentation celebration in Melbourne on Saturday, September 2.

Ends...

**For the latest VTA news follow us on Twitter [@VTAComms](https://twitter.com/VTAComms)
For further information please contact Brian O'Neil on 0411 055 284.**