

APRAA Chairman's Report

APRAA Conference 2014



A very successful Conference for the Auto Parts Recyclers Association of Australia (APRAA) was recently held in August at Stamford Plaza, Sydney Airport NSW.

The Conference was a fantastic success, with over 110 Delegates from around Australia, as well as international guests from the USA and New Zealand. Delegates and key industry stakeholders came together to learn and unite, with this year's Conference theme being: 'DRIVING THE INDUSTRY AHEAD!'

The 2014 APRAA Conference & Trade Show was an event to remember, and all of this could not have been accomplished without the generous support of our Sponsors and Exhibitors!

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This year, APRAA kicked off the proceedings on Thursday 7th August with a Yard Tour at ASV Euro Car Parts, JJ Auto Parts and Brookvale Spares. A big thank you to ASV for providing a BBQ luncheon! The tours attracted a record crowd of 72 delegates! Visiting these shops gave Delegates key insights into the different ways of managing their own yards.

Following the Yard Tour on Thursday evening, Delegates and guests came together for the 2014 Welcome Function and Official Opening sponsored by Parts Plus Australia. This included the presentation of the prestigious APRAA Awards.

Congratulations to our 2014 Award Winners!

Frank Nicastri – 2014 Memorial Award for Australia’s Most Environmentally Aware Parts Recycler

Presented by Aaron Nicastri, grandson of the late Frank Nicastri

This award is announced and presented at each APRAA Biennial Conference and is an acknowledgement for Australia’s most environmentally aware auto recycler in respect of Frank Nicastri’s dream and passion for a cleaner industry. The Nicastri family proudly honour Frank’s dedication to the auto parts recycling industry through the presentation of this award.

WINNER: Hugo Pellegrini, Paradise Auto Parts (SA)

Bob Scott – 2014 Memorial Award for Outstanding Industry Contribution

With Bob’s son Peter unable to attend the Conference (the first in 30 years he has missed!), Peter’s wife Pamela and his two children Isabelle and Jackson were in attendance to present the Bob Scott Memorial Award.

This award is announced and presented at each APRAA Biennial Conference in recognition of outstanding contribution to the Auto Parts Recycling Industry of Australia.

Donated by the Scott family, this prestigious award recognises the hard work and dedication of the late Bob Scott (1920 – 1983, Dubbo NSW) to the industry and his pioneering fortitude to establish his dream, a viable and operative Used Auto Parts Industry in the country.

WINNER: Mark Kraulis, U-Pull-It (SA)

Business Presentation Quality Awards

These awards recognise excellent and professional business practices of business in the Auto Parts Recycling industry. Regardless of size, many businesses operate successfully and efficiently and have a positive impact on the surrounding community. These awards celebrate that.

WINNER Small Category: Macarthur Auto Parts (NSW)

WINNER Medium Category: First Auto Parts Plus (VIC)

WINNER Large Category: Grant Walker Parts (VIC)

The 2014 APRAA Conference & Trade Show provided an excellent opportunity for all industry participants with a passion for automotive recycling to discuss issues, renew friendships and forge new ones! This year, APRAA’s aim was to ensure all Delegates and industry participants were provided a fantastic networking opportunity and educational speaker sessions with relevant speakers.

One of the major Conference highlights was an Industry Forum which attracted 93 Delegates and was presented by Chris Daglis – “ACM Parts – Information and Update Session”, which outlined ACM’s approach and its model.

The Conference highlighted the opportunity to discuss upcoming challenges in our industry and experience the latest in software and business efficiencies – With speakers such as Mike Kunkel from Profit Team Consulting (2014 Keynote Speaker), Jencey Wilson from Jencey Consulting and Don Porter from URG in attendance to provide sessions to help recyclers understand the existing opportunities for their businesses and maximising upon the benefits of education and sales techniques.

A big thank you to all in the industry that attended and supported the event and made it such a success! MTA NSW and APRAA thanks all the State Associations who supported, promoted and attended the event: MTA SA, VACC, MTA WA and MTA NT.

We look forward to seeing you all at the next Conference in 2016!

On another note, I encourage all recyclers to visit the APRAA website at www.apraa.com to view the End-of-Life Vehicle Policy which has been prepared by the Australian Motor Industry Federation (AMIF).

By Chris Cooper, APRAA Chairman