



Owner Driver
June, 2007
Page: 14
Section: General News
Region: National Circulation: 42,000
Type: Magazines Trade
Size: 798.28 sq.cms.
Published: Monthly

Brief: HH-CMV
Page 1 of 2

Top of their class

Two apprentices from Victoria and Tasmania beat 10 other finalists to take out the National Apprentice Challenge during the Queensland Truck and Machinery Show

THE COMBINED Victorian and Tasmanian team of Aaron Krause from Motors in Tasmania and Josh Mitchell from Bayswater Truck Centre in Victoria has won the inaugural National Apprentice Challenge.

For their effort in the winning competition, both Krause and Mitchell will be jetting off to the United States to visit a major truck show along with truck equipment suppliers and dealers, courtesy of major sponsors Kenworth Trucks and the Kenworth Dealer Group.

The competition was a team event organised by the Commercial Vehicle Industry Association Queensland (CVIAQ) Service Managers' Council

and was aimed at identifying Australia's best heavy vehicle apprentices by testing their diagnostic skills and knowledge.

"This major initiative as a nationally recognised industry event is focussed on promoting careers in the road transport industry," CVIAQ Chief Executive Brett Wright says.

"Heavy vehicle technicians of today are highly skilled and the National Apprentice Challenge is a great way of demonstrating those skills and the rewarding career path the industry can offer to the general public.

"Our thanks go to major sponsors Kenworth Trucks and the Kenworth Dealer Group for their generous support

in making this national event possible."

The first stage of the National Apprentice Challenge, a qualifying theory test, was held on March 22 this year. The electronic test was co-ordinated nationally by TAFE Queensland's SkillsTech Australia with all nominees simultaneously sitting the exam.

Teams consisting of the two top-scoring apprentices from each region were then flown to and accommodated in Brisbane during the show courtesy of major sponsors CVIAQ, Kenworth and the Kenworth Dealer Group.

The six teams that competed each represented one of the following regions: Queensland, Northern Territory, New

South Wales/ACT, Victoria/Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.

The two heats and the grand final were held over two days using identical Kenworth T404 SAR trucks with a series of demanding faults set in the vehicles by the judges.

"The competition was extremely close and after the ninety minute final the second and third places were only decided after a count back on points from the earlier heats," Wright says.

However, the clear winners were the combined Victorian and Tasmanian team.



Owner Driver
June, 2007
Page: 14
Section: General News
Region: National Circulation: 42,000
Type: Magazines Trade
Size: 798.28 sq.cms.
Published: Monthly

Brief: HH-CMV
Page 2 of 2



Second place went to the Western Australian team of Ben Burrows and Aaron Hill (Kenworth DAF WA), while third place was filled by the New South Wales pairing of Mark Bromley (Cummins South Pacific) and Sean Hall (Suttons Motors Arncliffe).

The second prize winners will be flown to Alice Springs to attend the National Road transport Hall of Fame celebrations in August. The two members of the third placed team each received a laptop computer.

All finalists not only received a laptop computer but also tool kits courtesy of long time CVIAQ and industry supporter Warby Tools. ■

National Apprentice Challenge finalists for 2007

David Jones	<i>K&S Freighters, Queensland</i>
Scott Astbury	<i>The Brown & Hurley Group, Queensland</i>
Mark Bromley	<i>Cummins South Pacific, New South Wales</i>
Sean Hall	<i>Suttons Motors Arncliffe, New South Wales</i>
Aaron Krause	<i>Motors Pty Ltd, Tasmania</i>
Josh Mitchell	<i>Bayswater Truck Centre, Victoria</i>
Michael Calley	<i>CMV Truck Sales & Service, South Australia</i>
Mark Prior	<i>CMV Truck Sales & Service, South Australia</i>
James Berry	<i>Western Diesel Alice Springs, Northern Territory</i>
Ricky McCarthy	<i>Western Diesel Alice Springs, Northern Territory</i>
Ben Burrows	<i>Kenworth DAF WA, Western Australia</i>
Aaron Hill	<i>Kenworth DAF WA, Western Australia</i>



National Apprenticeship Challenge winners Aron Krause from Tasmania and Josh Mitchell of Victoria, centre, with CVIAQ's Brett Wright, left, and Peter Langworthy of Kenworth trucks