



A new way to demonstrate best practice

Following the success of our inaugural Procurement Professional Awards programme last year, we are delighted to be launching the Procurement Professional Awards for 2008 earlier to allow you more time to complete your entry. I am sure that these awards will build their successful base and grow substantially in future years – as the prestigious CIPS Supply Management Awards have in the UK over the last ten years.

This awards programme successfully highlights the valuable contribution that our profession is making to organisations throughout the private and public sector. This recognition is not only beneficial to the confidence and career progression of individuals working in the profession, but also for their organisations and stakeholders as it will highlight the direct and wide ranging benefits of the procurement contribution. This awards programme is a modern way to demonstrate best practice for everyone's benefit.

Procurement may be the fastest growing profession in business, but its individual practitioners rarely promote their hard-earned achievements or accept due recognition. It is still not really part of our procurement 'culture.'

The 2nd Annual CIPS Australia Procurement Professional Awards are a step in the right direction towards correcting this imbalance. The judging criteria for the awards will recognise the broad range of skill areas in which procurement professionals excel - including project management, negotiation, supplier management, cost reduction, process improvement, individual initiative and teamwork. In a word it will recognise contribution.

The award categories themselves highlight the surprisingly wide range of vital activities that are undertaken within organisations by procurement professionals, from maintaining supplier partnerships to process improvement and from cross-functional initiatives to developing their own professionalism – all built upon the management of the organisation's external resource base.

This call for entries brochure is an interim release, with the full printed version due out in early June. Please do not be shy. Enter the awards by 15 August 2008, for the benefit of your stakeholders and your organisation – not just yourself. Show us a new way to demonstrate best practice.

Both the new CIPS CEO, Simon Sperry, and I look forward to seeing you at the Awards dinner. We look forward to celebrating the successes that will doubtless be richly deserved.

Jonathan Dutton MCIPS
Managing Director
CIPS Australia

