



**PRIME MINISTER**

FOR MEDIA

29 JUNE 1990

JOINT STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE MINISTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEALTH, MR HOWE

The Federal Government has today presented National and State Awards recognising contributions made by employers to employing people with disabilities.

The Prime Minister's Employer of the Year Awards were established by the Federal Government to recognise employers who have provided outstanding employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities.

The National Awards were presented to Pheonix Printing, of Windsor, Brisbane, and to the Brisbane City Council. We commend both for their commitment to the employment of people with disabilities in their organisations.

The winners and the service providers are to be congratulated for providing opportunities to people with disabilities to help them attain their goals of a real job for real pay.

All of the nominated employers played an important role in giving people with disabilities a fair go, and set an excellent example for other employers to follow.

The nominated industries have taken advantage of the Government opportunities for their enterprises by employing people with disabilities through Commonwealth-funded programs.

Pheonix Printing ably demonstrated the belief that individuals have differing levels of capabilities, and that people regarded as having a disability have the right to work for award rates of pay in a job of their choice.

Phoenix Printing employs two people with disabilities on award wages and provides excellent conditions of employment.

The Brisbane City Council presently employs three people with disabilities. The Council has ensured full integration of people with disabilities into the Council work environment and has placed no restriction on the type of work they perform.

Thirteen plaques were also presented to State winners.

The winners are:

Small Employer Category (up to 100 employees)

- . Brogans Sheetmetal (NSW)
- . Ensign Services (Aust) Pty Ltd (Vic)
- . Phoenix Printing (Qld)
- . Ess Good Sales (SA)
- . David Gray & Co Pty Ltd (WA)
- . Blue Banner Pickles (TAS)
- . Phillip Radiator Service (ACT)

Large Employer Category (over 100 employees)

- . Commercial Club Albury (NSW)
- . Deakin University (VIC)
- . Brisbane City Council (QLD)
- . Sola Optical Australia (SA)
- . Bunnings Forest Products Pty Ltd (WA)
- . The Department of Defence (ACT)