



TRAFFIC CONTROLLER  
~ of the year ~

**AWARD**

**Press Release July 2016**

**It's all about the Territory!**

### **NATIONAL TRAFFIC CONTROLLER OF THE YEAR JUNE QUARTER 2016**

Traffic controllers in the Northern Territory can celebrate recognition as one of their own has won the National Traffic Controller of the Year (TCOY) June Quarter 2016 Award. The Award is the brainchild of the Traffic Management Association of Australia (TMAA) and sponsor Kennards Hire.

Peter Gurrie from Diggamen Civil Contracting in Alice Springs has taken out the quarterly award, which is the highest recognition of professional performance as a traffic controller. He will be flown to Queensland's Gold Coast to attend the TMAA Annual Conference in April 2017, to vie for the overall National TCOY 2017.

Peter said he was humbled by the win and said he had moved to Alice Springs over eight years ago following his wife in her new role. "I decided to have a career change of my own and ended up working in Civil Construction and then traffic control. I am thrilled to win an award for traffic control as it is something I love to do," he said.

Peter said he enjoyed working on the planning side of traffic control as well as working with teams on site, keeping safety as a priority. "We are always the first call out when the traffic lights go down in Alice Springs," he said. Peter said he would like more public awareness for the travelling public on the duties and requirements for traffic control.

"Recently I was working on a site and a motorist left their vehicle to confront traffic controllers and was determined to drive through the site. Luckily for us, the car behind was a police vehicle, who also left their vehicle to enforce that the driver would be fined if they did not obey our directions. The police noted that our signs were as enforceable as any other road signs. It was great to have the positive support."

Peter said he was concerned that some members of the public think traffic control is not an important job. "I believe we are the enforcement on the roadsites for safety and we do have a few close shaves with motorists who do not regard the signs or us," he said. "It could be easy to become another statistic."

Peter praised the new safety awareness campaign for traffic controllers, an initiative by the NT Government and the TMAA, to be aired in the Northern Territory in late July. "I think if the public understand our role and what is happening on sites, then they will be happier and safer."

Sponsor Kennards Hire National Traffic Product Specialist Troy Clauss said, "It is extremely encouraging to see another notable candidate who has recently had a career change and has become so passionate and a real industry ambassador. Peter, with his commitment and work ethic has now been recognized with this award, setting a benchmark for his workmates and peers to follow. Congratulations Peter, I look forward to meeting you at the National Conference early next year."

**ENDS**

For more information contact Troy Clauss on 0408746421 or TMAA on 1300 798 772.



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ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA