

Diesel Electrics win top gong

Business of the Year excels in training staff



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DALBY apprentice auto-electrician Greg Campbell has always known his bosses at Diesel Electrics were giving him the best training available.

His knowledge was confirmed last Friday when the business won the prestigious Prime Minister's Small Business of the Year Award, announced at the Australian Training Awards in Sydney.

Owners Kellie and Anthony Wenning were praised for running a "small business with a big commitment to training".

Fourth-year apprentice Mr Campbell said the extra training he received gave him the edge over apprentices from other businesses. "It's fantastic," the 19-year-old said.

"We are always exposed to training."

Apprentices are given four hours a week to study in a fully-equipped training room.



Minister for Tertiary Education, Skills, Jobs and Workplace Relations Senator Christopher Evans (left) presents Anthony and Kellie Wenning with the Small Business of the Year Award. PICTURE: SUPPLIED

"The other apprentices I know don't really get that.

"I'm already going out in the field service utes and I normally wouldn't be doing that until I was a tradesman."

Mrs Wenning said it was a huge honour to be recognised for something they were so passionate about.

"We are very committed to dedicating the time and resources needed to help our employees achieve their own career goals.

"Not only does this help them as individuals, it helps our business and it makes a contribution to our

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community and our region's future."

Mrs Wenning said the awards involved a rigorous judging process including site evaluations and a presentation and interview session in front of a panel of experts in Canberra.

Diesel Electrics was commended

for spending eight per cent of work time on training.

Mrs Wenning has been invited by Skills Tasmania to speak at a training conference and is looking forward to the opportunity to encourage other businesses to think innovatively in their approach to training.