

## **SHARPE BROS WINS FAMILY BUSINESS AWARD**

The peak body for family businesses, Family Business Australia (FBA) has named Sharpe Bros as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation NSW Family Business of the Year for 2008.

The FBA Awards celebrate the unique achievements of family businesses and their contribution to the economy and culture of Australia.

NSW FBA Chairman, Terry Rowney, said Sharpe Bros success could be attributed largely to the way in which all the generations of the Sharpe family have run their businesses through a combination of sound practices and ongoing enthusiasm for their local area.

“The company’s support of the local artistic community through the Sharpe Bros Art Prize and the donation of their services to repairing roads after bush fires is admirable,” Mr Rowney said.

The judging panel, made up of business owners and professional advisers from across NSW, commended Sharpe Bros’ commitment to professionalising and growing the business.

The company was congratulated on the important contribution it makes to the community, and the close relationships the managers have with their employees.

As an award winner, Sharpe Bros demonstrated a solid record of financial performance and stability, respect within its field, commitment to the ideas of family business and good corporate citizenship through community involvement.

Joint Managing Directors, brothers Michael, Richard and Hayden said they were honoured to carry on the proud Sharpe tradition which began with their grandfather’s company in 1950.

Michael Sharpe said as the third generation of the Sharpe companies, the brothers continued the philosophy of providing support to community groups through donations, sponsorships and volunteering.

“We offer materials and services free of charge to schools, fire stations, and other community facilities, whilst remaining a successful and profitable business,” Mr Sharpe said.

“As a family business, we consider all of our staff as part of the extended Sharpe Bros family, and we are committed to ensuring continued growth and security for our employees.

Sharpe Bros will now go on to compete in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Award category at the National Family Business of the Year Awards to be held in Cairns in August.