30 finalists in running for OHS awards

Thirty individuals and organisations are in with a chance to take home National Safe Work Australia Awards.

The winners will be announced at Parliament House in Canberra on April 28.

Australian Safety and Compensation Council chairman Bill Scales says the awards are the premier occupational health and safety awards in Australia and promote continuous improvement in OHS by recognising excellence at the governmental, organisational and individual level.

"When considering the high level of enthusiasm, initiatives and quality of award submissions received for these awards, it's important to remember why the efforts of the finalists and their dedication to improving the health and safety of their workmates is important," Mr Scales says.

Over 140,000 Australians are seriously injured at work every year and more than 250 die as a result of injuries.

Many more die from work-related diseases such as mesothelioma.

"While we are taking the right step towards better workplace safety, more needs to be done", Mr Scales says.

Finalists for the awards are winners of OHS awards in their jurisdiction.

An independent judging panel will consider each finalist's submission before deciding on a final winner for each of the five categories. The finalists are –

Best workplace health and safety practices in small business:

- Dave Cavill N' Co, ACT.
- Sharpe Bros, NSW.
- Vino Ristorante, SA.
- Laddersmart, Victoria.

Best workplace health and safety management system:

- Construction Control, ACT.
- John Holland Group (Comcare).
- Catholic Schools Office Diocese of Broken Bay, New South Wales.