



Speech by

Hon. PETER BEATTIE

MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL

Hansard Thursday, 7 June 2007

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Smart Awards

Hon. PD BEATTIE (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier and Minister for Trade) (9.49 am): Innovation and creativity are the driving forces behind the success of the Smart State. They have become such an integral part of the way business is done in Queensland that we now expect Queensland businesses to be leaders in their field. My government has worked hard to create a business climate and a business culture where innovation is prized. Tonight at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre I will host the 2007 Premier of Queensland Smart Awards presentation dinner along with Minister John Mickel. Smart Awards, now in the fifth year, continue to reward innovative Queensland based businesses for demonstrating what it takes to succeed. The awards celebrate the role of smart business in building industries that are unique, innovative and knowledge based and they will help to continue to broaden the base of the economy. I seek leave to incorporate more details in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

Thanks to our sponsors we're able to once again offer cash prizes of \$10,000 to each of our six category winners, with the overall winner also receiving \$10,000 worth of Qantas flights.

This year we've had close to 100 applications for the Smart Awards—so the judges have really had their work cut out for them.

There are six award categories: They are:

- Rising Star
- Food and agribusiness
- Large manufacturing and mining
- Science, innovation and technology
- Services, including creative industries, and
- Small-to-medium manufacturing and mining.

There is also an overall winner who will receive the Premier of Queensland's Smart Award of the Year.

It is always a great event and I look forward to reporting back to Parliament tomorrow on the great Queensland companies that have been honoured as this year's award recipients.