

HERA Metals Industry Awards

Distinguished Service



Distinguished Service Award winner Stuart Thomson

Stuart Thomson has been associated with corrugated iron most of his life, as a plumber, sheet-metal worker, roofer, manufacturer, development engineer and building consultant.

He has corrugated with Sir Edmund Hillary in Nepal, investigated cyclone damage in the Pacific, written the industry's code of practice ~and all the while collected fascinating facts and stories (and written light-hearted verse) about this versatile, colourful New Zealand icon.

Stuart Thompson is also author of a book entitled *Wrinkly Tin: The Story of Corrugated Iron in New Zealand* and is the "icon" not only of steel roofing and cladding, but has also serviced the wider sheet-metals industry and particularly NASH in New Zealand. Congratulations Stuart!

Exporter of the Year



Winner of the Exporter of the Year award, BBC Technologies represented by Managing Director Greg Furniss

BBC Technologies Ltd. develops and manufactures innovative and affordable technology solutions for the small fruits, nuts and vegetable industries.

They are well-known for their *Color Sorta*, now an industry standard in the North American blueberry industry, and they have recently introduced a *Soft Sorta*, and a *Fill By Weight* machine into the market.

Their services are led by a highly skilled project team who deliver extraordinary results. In February 2005 BBC Technologies' Soft Sorter was named one of the Top Ten New Products at the World Agricultural Expo, California.

BBC Technologies has developed a reputation internationally for its ingenuity and innovative approach to producing advanced processing technology, while retaining a strong empathy for its customers and end-users.

Innovative Industry



Winner of the Innovative Industry Award, Cuddon Engineering represented by CEO John Cuddon

John Cuddon was involved in the design of the first freeze dryers that Cuddon Engineering manufactured in 1963. John and Robyn Cuddon have since been actively involved in the marketing and selling of freeze drying machinery manufactured in Blenheim, to the world over.

With 40 years in this market, John noted an increasing need for large freeze drying companies to switch from batch freeze drying to continuous freeze drying, and consequently initiated the design and building of a prototype continuous belt freeze dryer with spray application technology.

The highly automated CFD-000 significantly reduces the labour required to operate a continuous freeze drying operation, and hence reduces the cost per kg to freeze dry suitable products.

This sort of innovation highlights what is required to stay ahead of low cost producers who will continue to reverse-engineer and copy existing machinery. It takes such people to show a vision, commitment and dedication to innovation to stay ahead of the game.