

Sharon O'Phee wins prestigious industry award



Sharon O'Phee with her award for Manufacturing Woman of the Year.

Sharon O'Phee from Brisbane's O'Phee Trailers P/L has won the prestigious Queensland Business Review Manufacturing Woman of the Year award.

The award, part of the Women in Business awards which for the past three years have been promoting the important role women play in the Queensland economy, recognises Sharon's dedication not only to her role in the growth of O'Phee Trailers, but to the issues affecting the growth and sustainability of the industry.

"When I was nominated I was a little reluctant, to be honest, I didn't think I had much of a chance!" Sharon said. "I never expected to be a finalist, due to the calibre of the women involved, let alone win, so I was shocked when my name was announced. But obviously I was pleased as well. It's nice to be acknowledged for something you work hard at."

Kirsty Kahler from Queensland Business

Review said that with the trailer industry in a boom period, Sharon has been vigilant in highlighting the challenges that must be met to ensure a sustainable future.

"Her appointment to the Skills Tech Australia Council as Chairperson was sought specifically to counter the ongoing skills shortage. She was also the first woman vice-chair appointed to the CVIAQ board, then in the next year became the first woman Chairperson, as a further example of her desire to effect change in the sector," she said. "Over the past few years O'Phee Trailers has gone from strength to strength on the back of exceptional business acumen shown by Sharon and her husband and co-founder Mick O'Phee."

The awards were announced as part of a Gala Awards ceremony held at the St Lucia Golf Links on the evening of 7 August.