Inaugural AIP Scholarship Awarded at Cormack Innovation Awards Night

The Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) awarded the inaugural Scholarship for the Certificate in Packaging during the recent Cormack Innovation Awards evening.

The AIP Certificate in Packaging is an internationally accredited course developed by the Institute of Packaging UK (IoP) and holds recognition in 27 countries.

According to Mr Craig Wellman MAIP, National President of the AIP, the Scholarship was awarded to Sascha Dal Santo who is in her third year of a Bachelor of Industrial Design Degree at the University of New South Wales and was a finalist in the 2009 Cormack Innovation Awards.

"Sascha Dal Santo was an articulate and focused candidate who demonstrated a strong understanding of the industry and a willingness to continue within the packaging industry in either a design or brand management role. She was a standout for the judges with her ability to communicate within various audiences and her commitment to further development of her technical capabilities through the AIP scholarship," Mr Wellman said.

Scholarship winner, Sascha Dal Santo, added that the AIP scholarship will provide a preeminent gateway of opportunity to develop her career within packaging design and marketing for consumer goods and the opportunity to apply the knowledge and understanding exclusively achieved through the completion of the scholarship.

"I am truly honoured to have been awarded the AIP Scholarship for the Certificate in Packaging. I was quite surprised, but am so excited by this great opportunity," Ms Dal Santo said.

According to Matthew Cormack, Managing Director of Cormack Packaging, "Sascha is a deserved winner of this scholarship and will no doubt be able to gain the knowledge necessary to open doors into a long and successful career in the Packaging Industry. I am excited by the potential that Sascha has demonstrated and look forward to seeing her personal development through the AIP program."

"I would also like to express my appreciation of the foresight of the Australian Institute of Packaging (AIP) in joining with the Cormack Innovation Awards in offering and demonstrating a clear path into the world of consumer packaging for students." Mr Cormack said.

In acknowledgement of the high calibre of applicants, the AIP endorsed a High Commendation to Grant Ovzinsky, who is currently studying at the University of Technology Sydney. A compassionate designer, Grant displayed to the judges a strong passion for promoting a balance between 'Enviro-Societal' considerations. A natural leader, Grant will no doubt become involved within the AIP in leading future development projects with students.

"The AIP extends their thanks to Cormack Packaging for opening up their event to include the Scholarship and for facilitating the process. The AIP was very pleased with the results of the AIP Scholarship in its first year and we look forward to its continuation," Mr Wellman MAIP said.

The Cormack Innovation Award scholarship complements other programs initiated by the AIP in 2009 including, the Australian Packaging Machinery Association scholarship for the Diploma in Packaging Technology and the AIP scholarship for the Certificate in Packaging for the PCA Southern Cross Awards. The AIP Scholarships awarded via the PCA, Cormack and APMA programs are an effort to open up the world of the packaging industry to tertiary students. The AIP is seeking other scholarship opportunities and would welcome support from industry for co-funding these in order to increase the availability of newcomers to the packaging industry.