

Sugar Milling Industry Safety Conference

In the category of **Best Solution to a workplace problem** there were many excellent applications and the judging panel wanted to make a very honourable mention of some applications, namely:

- Plane Creek Mill Shredder Modifications and
- The Victoria Mill Tippler Modifications,

these applications demonstrated a strong commitment to safety and innovation in applying solutions that protect our sugar milling employees.

And the panel was very keen that these two Wilmar applications receive a Very Highly Commended Certificate for demonstrating a strong commitment to safety in the workplace and to creating great solutions to workplace problems:

- Kim Kendall, Engineering Manager and Craig Muddle, Operations Manager Plane Creek Mill. And
- Adam Douglas, Regional Operations Manager Victoria Mill.



Craig Muddle and Adam Douglas representing Wilmar Sugar, receive Certificates from Dominic Nolan and John Pratt.

The Plane Creek Shredder has reduced the manual handling risks in the workplace through an innovative hammer delivery systems and the design and installation of lighter hammers. A complete redesign of the gridplate has eliminated all working at heights and improved access

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time by over 30%. This innovative engineering solution has significantly reduced the manual handling risk and confined space issues of this maintenance.

The Victoria Mill Tippler modifications shows a true commitment to the safety of employees by engineering a solution which created full isolation of the feeder area that protected workers who need to operate in this area. The project also created a physical barrier to entry and therefore has shown significant effectiveness of the Wilmar risk control and risk profile system.

ASMC recognize these two Wilmar mills with Very Highly Commended Certificate for application of Safety in **Best Solution to a workplace problem.**

The strength and quality of these initiatives only goes to show how brilliant the overall winner is and that winner is Bundaberg Sugar Kids off Trains initiative.

Best Solution to a workplace problem overall winner Bundaberg Sugar Limited Kids off Trains (KOT) Community Safety Awareness Program.



Best Solution to a Workplace Problem Overall Winner Award; Dominc Nolan (ASMC CEO), Maria McMahon and David Pickering (Bundaberg Sugar), John Pratt (ASMC Chair).

The 'Kids off Trains' (KOT) Community Safety Awareness Program has been a proactive initiative set up by Bundaberg Sugar for more than 17 years.

The initiative was to address a public risk of interaction between the public and our cane trains and rail crossings throughout the crushing season. The KOT program forms part of our

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cane rail safety campaign, and educates children on the dangers of playing on or near cane rail tracks and riding on trains.

An identified risk in some areas was children accessing these private properties or gazetted locations, if they chose to play on or near our railway or cane bins.

Our loco drivers have in many instances sighted children, especially teenagers, on or near cane railways or cane bins. On some occasions these children have not only put themselves in danger but also our loco crews by placing objects on train lines or tampering with control devices.

The KOT program involves Bundaberg Sugar representatives visiting schools to speak to children about cane rail safety. In 2011 it was decided to refresh the message and a DVD was produced by Bundaberg Sugar in conjunction with the Australian Sugar Cane Railway which operates reconditioned steam and diesel locomotives around the Bundaberg Botanic Gardens. The key message here is "Take A Safer Ride Instead" alerting children to the opportunity to ride a cane train in a safer environment. The DVD is shown to students at the school visits. The Australian Sugar Cane Railway has indicated a large increase in the number of children riding trains at the Botanic Gardens and attributes this to the school presentations and television commercials aired during the holidays.

ASMC recognize Bundaberg Sugar as our 2016 winner of the **Best Solution to a workplace problem.**

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