

### **AFTA Warmly Welcomes Three New Judges to the National Travel Industry Awards.**

**11 February 2013**

AFTA warmly welcomes three industry luminaries, Peter Lacaze former Chief Executive Officer of JTG, Rick Myatt, Director of AFTA Education and Training and Bob Lunnon who was with Starwood for over 30 years, his last role being Director, Leisure and Luxury Sales, Asia Pacific, as new judges for the National Travel Industry Award Judging Panel.

“We are fortunate to have the wealth of industry knowledge and experience from Peter, Rick and Bob on our panel, which will no doubt enrich the entire judging process. We are also happy to announce that Andrew Drysdale, John McKernan and Tim Poulter will be providing us with their expertise once again” Alex Cook, Event Manager said.

This year’s National Travel Industry Awards are well under way with nominations kicking off at 9am this morning. Nominations will close at 5pm EDST on Friday the 1<sup>st</sup> of March.

Ends.

#### **Notes to Editors:**

The Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA) is the peak body in Australia representing the retail travel industry. Founded in 1957, AFTA represents the majority of travel agents in Australia and includes all of the major travel agency groups.

AFTA’s role is to uphold the interests of members in matters relating to the operation of all travel agencies in Australia. In broad terms these issues are ones that are not addressed by agent chain or corporate entities on behalf of their members, and are ones that involve the industry as a whole.

The AFTA National Travel Industry Awards (AFTA NTIA) acknowledge the best of the best in the Australian travel industry – with categories covering travel agencies and individual consultants, as well as the various suppliers which support them and their businesses.

These awards are essential in providing encouragement and recognition to the businesses and personnel who demonstrate outstanding service, marketing excellence and business acumen to the travel industry.

The 2013 - AFTA NTIA Gala Dinner will be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> July at the Hordern Pavilion, Moore Park.

#### **Contact:**

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