

Nominations close today for 2012 AFTA NTIA

29 February 2012: Nominations for the 2012 AFTA National Travel Industry Awards will close at 5.00pm (EDST) today.

“We have had a tremendous response for nominations for this year’s NTIA” said AFTA’s Marketing & Communications Manager, Melinda Brown.

“The new survey software we have implemented for the nominations has streamlined the process and ensured that we have a greater number of valid nominations being submitted.” said Brown.

Over the next two weeks, AFTA will be contacting all nominees to confirm their eligibility and acceptance of their nomination and a full list of nominees will be available from 19th March 2012.

Online voting will commence on the AFTA website from Wednesday 21st March and run through to Friday 27th April 2012.

AFTA has now released the entrant guidelines for the judged categories through its website. These guidelines apply to the presentations required by finalists in the 15 judged award categories. These guidelines may be downloaded at www.afta.com.au/NTIAAwardCategories

The schedule of dates for judging in each category has also been confirmed. The six person AFTA NTIA Judging Panel will convene over the course of 2 weeks in early June to judge the presentations and submissions of up to 75 Finalists. A copy of the schedule may be downloaded at www.afta.com.au/NTIANominationsVoting

Qantas Airways has signed on as Major Sponsor of the 2012 NTIA, continuing the loyal support that has been offered over many years.

“It is a very fitting partnership to have Australia’s national airline as the Major Sponsor of Australia’s national awards for the travel industry” said Brown.

Tickets for the AFTA NTIA Gala Dinner will be on sale from Wednesday 7th March.

2012 will see the return of the popular Afta Party following the Gala Dinner. Singapore Airlines is once again sponsoring the Afta Party and tickets can be requested at the time of purchase of Gala Dinner tickets.

To submit a nomination for the 2012 AFTA NTIA visit www.afta.com.au before 5.00pm today and click the link on the homepage.

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 2012 AFTA NTIA Gala Dinner will be held on Saturday 21st July at The Westin, Sydney.

Contact:

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