

Press Release

November 2010



LAA ANNOUNCES NEW NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Immediately prior to the November Board of Directors meeting, Brad Harrison announced his intention of standing aside as LAA National President and Mike Owen was nominated as the new National President.

Brad has been a member of the LAA since 1996, prior to becoming a Director of the LAA in 2005 he was a Committee member. Then Brad took on the role of National President in September 2007.

During his time as National President, Brad led the implementation of the LAA's new constitution which assisted the further development of a new national business strategy and focus. Brad's achievements encompass the LAA's move toward leadership in educational and professional development programs such as the expansion into four states of the hugely popular supply chain mentoring program; the implementation of short course training programs, and the delivery of a diverse national events program; as well as other programs such as the book club service and the Supply Chain International Development Program involving the Clinton Foundation.

Brad thanked his fellow Directors, Committee members and the LAA staff for their devoted efforts in developing, supporting and nurturing these rewarding programs. He also thanked them for their support during these challenging years and wished the LAA continued growth and success into the future. Brad then welcomed Mike Owen as the new National President.

Mike Owen has been a Director of the LAA since 2009, an LAA Committee member for 8 years and a member since the late 1980's. With a long history of management and operation experience in supply chain, Mike Owen is well qualified to take on the role of National President. Mike is a vastly experienced pragmatic leader and career guide with over 30 years involvement in senior inventory, procurement, logistics and supply chain, sales, marketing and executive management roles, complimented by consulting, project management and contracting exposure. Mike has held line and functional roles as a customer and service provider in international and domestic logistics, as well as the brewing, gases, steel, and printing industries. For the past 5 years, Mike has operated his own consultancy (Supply Chain Synergy P/L), including a JV Partnership providing Executive Recruitment services to the supply chain and aligned industries. Mike currently holds the position of Executive Vice President – AirRoad Group.

Mike's qualifications include studies in Materials Management (TAFE), Logistics and Supply Chain (AGSM & MGSM), Quality Management Techniques (Australian Quality College), Strategic Marketing (Columbia) and part of an MBA (MGSM). Throughout this time, Mike has been a consistently keen reader and observer on management studies and the various methods for maximising human potential at work and play. Mike is also a Certified Professional Logistician (CPL) and is a strong advocate of the benefits of continuing professional development.

Alongside family and sport, Mike has held an active interest in mentoring and contributing to the development of aspiring industry leaders. Mike also was the inaugural Chairman of the Western Sydney Transport & Logistics Careers Task Force (through the Department of State & Regional Development) and was an active member of the Australian Logistics Council Capable People Working Group.

Mike is an experienced and talented facilitator, communicator and change agent with a large, diverse network who is typified by his calm, consistent professionalism, honesty, integrity, and a passion for assisting the development of others. Mike's contact details are mowen@laa.asn.au.

On taking up the appointment, Mike thanked former National President Brad Harrison for the invaluable work that he had done to advance the cause of the LAA, particularly over the past 3 years.

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