

**PRESENTATION OF THE GOLD MEDAL AT THE AUSTRALIAN
INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS (TAS) LUNCHEON BY THE
HONOURABLE PETER UNDERWOOD AC, GOVERNOR OF
TASMANIA, AT MONA, FRIDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2012.**

It is a great pleasure for me and my wife to be here with you once again to formally recognise the achievements of a member of the Tasmanian Division of the Australian Institute of Company Directors by conferring on him or her the prestigious Gold Medal.

Being awarded a gold medal evokes images of the Olympics where the highest award is conferred upon the athlete judged to be the best on the day. But whereas an Olympic gold is competed for over a single event, or over just a few days the Institute's Gold Medal requires achievement over an extended period and across a range of spheres.

The Institute's award measures contributions made to the community including, business, charitable/philanthropic works and employment creation. It is awarded to a member who upholds good corporate governance and high ethical standards in their personal, business and public life. In short, it is made in recognition of outstanding effort as a company director and citizen of Tasmania.

This year's winner has met all of these requirements and I am pleased to announce that the 2012 Gold Medallist is Michael Vos.

Michael is the Chairman of Directors of the Vos Family Office which incorporates Vos Nominees Pty Ltd and the Vos Foundation which was established in 1987 to help those individuals and families in our community and elsewhere who are suffering extreme

hardship. Michael is also Chairman of Vos Construction and Joinery Pty Ltd.

As Chairman, Michael provides the vision, leadership and financial stewardship to develop the company's assets and enable his company to give more to the community.

Michael began his career in the family business of Roelf Vos Supermarkets and in 1983 he worked with his father Roelf to build the well-known Grindelwald Swiss Village and Holiday Resort.

Michaels' achievements in the construction industry are too numerous for me to try and mention them all here, but the following examples illustrate the passion he has for undertaking significant projects and delivering quality developments that also benefit the wider community;

- The redevelopment of the formerly derelict IXL Jam Factory and transforming it into the award winning Henry Jones Art Hotel,
- Construction of Wellington Square, Elwick Racecourse, Queen Victoria Museum, Harvey Norman Transit Centre, Melbourne Recital Centre, the Kingston and Bridgewater High Schools, Sebel Hotel and Apartments, Motors Launceston and Devonport, Launceston Airport and many more.

Michael correctly believes that behind every successful man there is an amazing woman. His wife Cathy is an amazing woman and has been a key factor in supporting Michael in all his endeavours. They have four children, and eight grandchildren. Michael is committed to

his family and always ready to do anything to support them. I have reliable evidence of an event that bears this out. My source wishes to remain anonymous but told me in strictest confidence that that many years ago now one of Michael's sons decided to try bungee jumping. Michael thought he should support his son in this macho adventure and show him how to be brave and face danger. Michael decided that we would bungee jump too. He felt very proud as he watched his son go first, stepping off the platform without hesitation and taking it all in his stride. However, I regret to report that Michael's family bonding exercise lost its impact for after Michael had finally been coaxed to jump his swift descent was accompanied by terrified screams all the way to the bottom that could be heard miles away.

Michael has served as a pastor of the Launceston Christian Fellowship now known as the Trevallyn Life Centre and he guides the Vos Foundation which contributes a percentage of the company's profits each year through the Foundation to help the needy in Australia and overseas.

The Vos Foundation has established major partner relationships with several charitable organisations including;

- St Giles – an organisation that was originally founded as a response to the polio epidemic but has since progressed to provide a family-centred approach to children with a disability so they can remain with their families in their own home;
- Samaritans Purse – a Christian not for profit organisation that operates in over 100 countries providing disaster relief, vocational training, building programs including schools and

water wells and programs to promote nutrition, health and sanitation;

- The Launceston City Mission – which works actively alongside churches and community groups to bring friendship, care and compassion to those who feel socially isolated and spiritually out of touch with God; and
- Compassion Australia which works in over 26 developing countries to release children from poverty by working with them from birth to university to address their economic, social, physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

There is a lot more, but as I said earlier I am sure from what I have just outlined you will all agree that Michael Vos is well and truly a deserving recipient of the 2012 Australian Institute of Company Directors Gold Medal Award. Please join with me in congratulating Michael Voss as I present him with the Australian Institute of Company Directors Gold Medal Award for 2012.