

## IPI Wins Innovation Award for its Inflatable Casing Packers

13 November 2013

Inflatable Packers International (IPI - a Perth based company) has been acknowledged with one of Western Australia's highest awards for innovation at the recent State Government Innovator of the Year Award. In a field of 80 contestants IPI was today awarded for its latest innovation in inflatable packers - the Inflatable Casing Packer ("ICP").

The ICP is a single set packer with valve and is used in well construction (as part of cementing, especially in difficult terrain) and for zonal isolation for processes such as hydraulic fracturing. IPI's casing packer is based upon sound core technology delivered by IPI throughout its range of inflatable packers which are used in industries as diverse as water wells, mining, coal seam gas and building construction. The product competes with other



casing packers made mainly in North America but are extensively used in Australia's growing oil and gas industry, and more with the large number of wells being sunk for coal seam gas and other unconventional gas applications.

No stranger to R&D, IPI have been applying innovative endeavour to the field of inflatable packers for the last 14 years. And two of their team members have been in this industry for 26 years each. With a team of committed and dedicated researchers, engineers and workshop professionals IPI's culture of continuing innovation has paid dividends with a \$20,000 Encouragement Award at the 2013 WA Innovator of the Year Awards. The award was



WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
**Innovator  
of the  
2013 Year**

**Woodside Oil & Gas  
ENCOURAGEMENT AWARD WINNER**

sponsored by Australia's largest independent oil and gas company, Woodside Energy Limited. The award recognises excellence in a product applicable to the oil and gas industry.

The award is industry focussed and each entry was assessed by a panel of experienced judges from a wide array of industries. The award is a showcase of world-leading innovation produced in Western Australia.

The ICP packer represents an improvement to long standing conventional designs in casing packers with an optional new form of valving mechanism and a construction of inflatable element that is not commonly used in oil and gas applications. This combination of design features has seen IPI produce a unique new casing packer product for the oil and gas market which is poised to capture the interest of the whole industry, especially as the industry is faced with increasing levels of environmental compliance challenges. The optional new valve is far more robust and less prone to erosion – weaknesses of the long standing valve design.

For more information contact IPI via their website at <http://www.inflatable-packers.com>.

