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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

QAL Leads Training in the Australian Resources Sector

The training programs at Queensland Alumina Limited (QAL) were recognised as some of the best in the Australian resources sector at the 2008 Mining Industry Skills Centre Training Awards in Brisbane on Friday night.

QAL Human Resources Superintendant Keith Greatrix accepted the Best Training Processes and Practices of The Year: Large Company Award, which acknowledges outstanding achievements and ongoing commitment to the development and delivery of training.

Chief Financial Officer Peter Odgers said it was a significant achievement for QAL to be again recognised for its commitment to training and leadership within the resources industry.

“As the region’s largest employer and with over 100 apprentices and trainees on site, we are committed to being the employer of choice not only locally, but nationally as well. Providing quality training to our employees is paramount as well trained people are the life blood of our business,”

“Recognition at this level demonstrates that QAL is a leader in the industry and by providing a high level of training we are assisting to address the skills shortage which will contribute to the region’s future growth.” Mr Odgers said.

Mining Industry Skills Centre’s Project Officer - Skills Strategy, Kellie Lister, said that the standard of applicants for this year’s Training Awards was extremely high.

“The level of commitment to learning and development expressed by all of the applicants was inspiring and it is clear that learning and development initiatives in the resources industry are becoming a keystone for safety, productivity, recruitment and retention,” Ms Lister said

“Queensland Alumina Limited stood out from the rest of the finalists for their strong commitment to providing training and development that delivers continuous skill improvement for all employees.”

“The dedication and support provided by the company in establishing a central training system has resulted in a range of efficient programs and the sense of a strong training culture across all aspects of the organisation,” Ms Lister said.

Metalliferous Processing Trainee Genine Pritchard was also a finalist in the Processing Trainee of the Year category at the Awards.

The Skills Centre’s Training Awards are the resources industry’s most prestigious training and skilling awards and showcase the leading work being undertaken by companies, trainers, individuals and trainees.

QAL was the recipient of Large Employer Award at the 2008 Central Queensland Training Awards Regional Final earlier this year.

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Caption: QAL Human Resources Superintendant Keith Greatrix accepts the Best Training Processes and Practices of The Year: Large Company Award for QAL at the 2008 Mining Industry Skills Centre Training Awards in Brisbane on Friday night.