

Press release
For immediate release

Certified organic businesses tops for sustainability

Organics is emerging as a winning formula for sustainable businesses.

The finalists in this year's Sustainable Business Network awards again feature BioGro certified organic operations.

Kokako Organic has been identified as among the top 25 sustainable businesses in the country. Kokako is an Auckland-based organic Fair Trade coffee roaster, café, and catering company.

If it takes out the national title it will be two years in a row for BioGro organic operations. Last year the supreme national Sustainable Business of the Year title went to BioGro certified, Paraora Bakehouse on the Kapiti Coast.

Wellington's BioGro certified retailer Commonsense Organics was a national winner in 2004. Organic operations have been finalists in the awards in five of the past six years.

The Sustainable Business Network (SBN) represents more than 700 organisations throughout the country, ranging from some of the country's largest businesses and corporations, to small owner operated enterprises and not-for-profits.

The annual awards compare businesses that are demonstrating leadership in blending smart business planning with social and environmental sustainability.

Kokako was named a trail-blazer for extending its responsible business practices to influencing and educating its customers and suppliers and has already taken out the Northern Region award.

"It's gratifying to see our licensees recognized as being so much at the heart of building a successful sustainable future," says BioGro Chief Executive, Michelle Glogau.

"Certified organic businesses are represented in the Awards out of all proportion to their prevalence in the marketplace. Clearly the practices and disciplines that businesses apply to gain organic certification go hand in hand with smart, sustainable business practice across the board."

The finals of the 2009 NZI National Sustainable Business Network Awards will be held in Auckland on Thursday, November 12.

For more information, or high resolution images please contact :

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