



EMPA Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communication

PURPOSE

The Annual EMPA Awards for Excellence in Emergency Communication have been established to recognise those who have made a significant contribution to emergency communications in Australia and New Zealand.

CATEGORIES

- 1. For emergency communication - Readiness and Resilience:**
 - a. A project or activity that contributes to improved community preparedness and / or resilience.
- 2. For emergency communication - Response and Recovery:**
 - a. Communicating effectively during an emergency response; or
 - b. Supporting the recovery of a community impacted by an emergency
- 3. For published research that advances emergency communication by:**
 - a. Improving community preparedness and / or resilience; or
 - b. Increasing the effectiveness of communication during an emergency response; or
 - c. Enabling agencies to better support communities recovering from an adverse event.
- 4. For media:**
 - a. In-depth and balanced coverage of a topic that increases public understanding of a hazard or an emergency response.
 - b. Comprehensive and accurate reporting before or during an emergency response, contributing to public safety.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Each entry must:

1. Be made on the official online entry form (*refer to online link*)
2. Provide sufficient information and supporting evidence to clearly explain the intention and scope of the activity or project, and what it achieved.



JUDGING CRITERIA

Eligibility

The EMPA Awards are open to:

- All who make an active contribution to emergency management in Australia or New Zealand in any capacity, provided that their activity is directly associated with communication / public information.
- Students, tutors or teaching staff in any accredited tertiary institution, whose research is directly related to emergency management in Australia or New Zealand.
- Journalists, including freelancers, who report on hazards and / or emergency responses in Australia or New Zealand.
- Individuals and teams are both eligible for nomination.
- The project, activity, research or coverage which is the subject of the nomination must be contemporary in nature, e.g. carried out or substantially completed within the previous 12-24 months, ending:
 - 29 March 2019 (Australia)
 - 31 May 2019 (New Zealand)
- For media, the material must have been published / broadcast within the 12 months ending:
 - 29 March 2019 (Australia)
 - 31 May 2019 (New Zealand)

EMPA Fellows are ineligible to be nominated for these awards

Judging

- A panel of three EMPA Fellows will judge each category.
- The judges may, at their sole discretion, make inquiries or request additional information to verify or confirm any aspect of any entry. Notwithstanding, it is the responsibility of each nominee to ensure that their entry provides sufficient information and supporting evidence to enable a complete assessment to be made.
- Where there are sufficient numbers of entries in a category, the judges may at their sole discretion choose a runner-up and / or highly commend one or more nominees.
- If in the opinion of the judges there is no nomination of a sufficient standard to warrant an award in a category, the judges may decline to make an award in that category, or may commend an entry without announcing it as the winner.
- The decision of the judges is final.



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Presentations

The Australian EMPA Awards will be presented during the conference dinner, Sydney, on Tuesday 4th June 2019.

The New Zealand EMPA Awards will be presented during the conference dinner, Wellington, on Thursday 1st August 2019.

- Finalists will be notified two weeks before the event.
- Finalists will be asked to submit a 30 second video or a single PowerPoint slide summarising their project. This will be screened as part of the presentation ceremony.
- It is a condition of entry that finalists must attend the conference dinner [where a team has been shortlisted, at least one member of the team must attend].
- Travel and accommodation – if required – is at the nominee’s own cost.
- In the event that a finalist is not also attending the conference, a ticket to the conference dinner must be purchased separately.