



the voice of the industry

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MEDIA RELEASE

Aspiring Humanitarian Wins HIA Australian Apprentice of the Year.

HIA is pleased to announce that the winner of the 2019 HIA Jim Brookes Australian Apprentice of the Year has gone to NSW's Thomas Payton, who has been recognised not only for his outstanding work ethic, but also for his admirable ambition to use his skills as a carpenter for humanitarian purposes.

The HIA Jim Brookes Australian Apprentice award is partnered by Stratco Australia and is tied into the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards, which are the ultimate platform to showcase the talents of the nation's top builders and designers.

Thomas was nominated for being a motivated carpentry apprentice who is always looking for new learning and experience opportunities.

The judges were also impressed by Thomas' humanitarian ambitions and his vision to give back to communities using his trade skills.

Thomas is hoping that when he finishes his apprenticeship he can volunteer to do building work in countries that have experienced disasters.

Thomas' boss, Jacob Pullen of JMP Building, has nothing but praise for his young employee.

"He looks for assistance when required, and takes on board feedback. He is highly competent and has the ability level far beyond his training level," said Jacob.

HIA NSW Executive Director David Bare, said the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards program is unsurpassed in the residential building industry.

"Well done to Thomas and to his host for recognising his immense potential.

"At a time when we need more apprentices to enter the building industry, it's great to see apprentices take on the challenge of working hard to realise the rewarding career they can have in the industry," Mr Bare said.

HIA is Australia's peak building industry body representing more than 40,000 builders, suppliers and contractors involved in residential construction.

For further information please contact:

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