

## Media Release

### Exit Planning Institute Awards Names Craig West 2014 Exit Planner of the Year

**Wednesday October 15, 2014.** Succession Plus CEO Craig West was honoured as the recipient of the Peter Christman Exit Planner of the Year award by the Exit Planning Institute (EPI), at the organisation's 2014 International Conference that brought together practitioners and experts from across the globe to Fort Worth, Texas earlier this month.



EPI International President Christopher M Snider, said the highlight of the Conference is the acknowledgement and presentation of the prestigious Exit Planner of the Year Award that is awarded in honour of the EPI's Founder, Peter Christman who is widely considered to be the pioneer of the exit planning profession and the original exit planning coach.

In congratulating Craig West on his success, Christopher Snider said "Craig West is acknowledged as the world's leading expert in succession and exit planning and he is to be commended for highlighting and promoting the importance of succession planning for business owners that seek to maximise the value of their life's work when it is time to retire or transition their enterprise to the next generation of entrepreneurs".

Craig West started Succession Plus in 2004 after taking a year off to write three books. In 2010, he joined the EPI and became a Certified Exit Planning Adviser (CEPA) and returned to Australia to not only elevate his practice but to launch EPI Australia.

With four critically acclaimed books and six offices across Australia, Succession Plus has become one of the country's leading strategic advisory firms and together with his team of advisers, Craig West has assisted countless business owners to address their succession and exit planning goals.

Furthermore, Craig West travels the world conducting seminars, workshops and delivering keynote presentations. He is also currently undertaking a PhD in Business Succession and Exit Planning.

Commenting on receiving the Peter Christman Exit Planner of the Year award Craig West said, "This is a true honour as Peter Christman has been a mentor and inspiration in my professional career ever since I met him back in 2010 at the CEPA Program, it really changed my practice".

"To now hold an award with his name on it is quite a significant milestone in my personal and professional journey as an exit and succession planning professional."

At the Excellence in Exit Planning Awards event, three professional advisers were also honoured with the following accolades –

- **Volunteer of the Year** – Mark Kravietz, Managing Director at Hightower MK Wealth Management in New York City, New York
- **Volunteer of the Year** – Chris Cooper, Program Coordinator at the Ohio Employee Ownership Center in Kent, Ohio

- **Leader of the Year** – Scott Miller, President of Enterprises Services Inc. in Delafield, WI

Christopher Snider concluded, “The EPI international conference provides our experienced practitioners with a platform to come together and create awareness, participate in innovative learning, continuing education, defining methodology, research, thought leadership, practice development, networking and sharing of experiences, challenges and successes”.

“Most importantly, it brings us together to acknowledge our premier advisers and I again congratulate Craig West for his outstanding leadership and dedication to the profession and his craft as a role model committed to addressing the Business Succession and Exit planning aspirations of all business owners”.

**ENDS**

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