



**2027 SITE SAFE**

# **EVENING OF CELEBRATION**

## **Awards**

Celebrating 20 years of health, safety and wellbeing in New Zealand construction industry.

**CELEBRATING  
20 YEARS**  
EVENING OF CELEBRATION



# The Site Safe Evening of Celebration

**From modest beginnings to the construction industry's largest health and safety event**

In 2027, we're celebrating 20 years of our Evening of Celebration. This will be a special night where we come together to recognise the people who lift health, safety and wellbeing across construction in New Zealand.

From our first ceremony in 2006 for 76 graduates of our Certificate in Construction Site Safety, the Evening of Celebration has grown into a key date in the industry's calendar. The turning point was in 2014, when we introduced our prestigious industry awards and received 33 award entries. This has evolved through the years with 2026 receiving 87 entries. The addition of the awards has transformed the night into industry's largest health and safety event, bringing together:

- Graduates from the Health and Safety in Construction programme.
- Recognition of Site Safe scholarship recipients.
- The industry awards, honouring those who lead by example.

While this event may have grown from its modest beginnings, our purpose hasn't changed. This event is about shining a light on the individuals, teams and businesses who make working in the construction sector safer, so every Kiwi worker gets home healthy and safe.

We're proud of what this night has become, and we don't do it alone. It works because people across the sector are willing to share what's working, celebrate the wins, and keep the safety conversation moving.

This success comes down to the people and community around them:

- People who step up and share success stories through our awards.
- Future safety leaders who have crossed the stage, committed to making our workplaces better.
- Everyone who understands safety is a team effort.

And yes, we make it a good night out. Expect great company, good food, and plenty of laughs. Safety is serious business, but it's also worth celebrating the progress we're making together.

Over the years, we've also been lucky to have a wide range of MCs and guest speakers join us. They've helped set the tone for the night - positive, practical, and focused on people.

From comedians to thought leaders, past MCs and guest speakers, we're grateful to everyone who's been part of the last 20 years, and we're looking forward to what we'll achieve next, together.

# Evening of Celebration over the years



- **2006** – Inaugural Evening of Celebration with 76 graduates from 28 businesses completing the new Certificate in Construction Site Safety programme.
- **2007** – Graduate numbers increase to 130 across NZ in its second year.
- **2011** – Introduced the Māori, Pasifika and Under 25 scholarship programmes.
- **2012** – Introduced the Site Safe Health and Safety Awards with three categories and added Open scholarship.
- **2014** – 33 award entries.
- **2015** – Introduced regional graduations in Wellington and Christchurch. Moved Evening of Celebration to a larger venue to accommodate 140+ attendees. 54 award entries.
- **2017** – 240 graduates. Added Women in Construction scholarship. 55 award entries
- **2018** – 2,100 graduates over 12 years across New Zealand. 72 award entries. 200+ attendees.
- **2019** – Launched new Health and Safety in Construction programme. Introduced Mental Health Award category off Site Safe's Mental Health Research.
- **2022** – Added accessibility scholarship.
- **2023** – Moved to a larger Evening of Celebration venue to accommodate 300+ attendees.
- **2026** – 262 graduates across NZ. Introduction of the VIP Pre Function. 87 award entries from 53 businesses across 7 award categories. Event attendees 350+



**5,000+**  
Total attendees



**3,882**  
Total graduates



**520+**  
Total awards entries

# About the Awards

Recognising the best in Health, Safety and Wellbeing!

Every year in March, Site Safe hosts the biggest industry event recognising health, safety and wellbeing. For 20 years, the Evening of Celebration has honoured the standout individuals, teams, and businesses making Kiwi workplaces safer and healthier.

Winners take home a trophy—and a \$1,000 gift card courtesy of each award's sponsor.

## Why enter?

Submit your entry for an individual, team or organisation who has inspired or demonstrated positive health and safety change by sharing your ideas and initiatives with like-minded people.



### Be Recognised Nationwide

Gain prestigious recognition for your dedication to creating a safer work environment.



### Inspire the Industry

Share your best practices and inspire positive change across diverse sectors.



### Celebrate your People

A strong health and safety culture fosters a thriving workforce, your most valuable asset.



### Raise the Bar

Benchmark your achievements and good work in front of influential experts.

## Who can enter?



### Any small, medium or large businesses

operating within the New Zealand construction sector, its supporting services or alongside the construction industry.



Any individual who works in New Zealand.



An individual, team or business may submit across more than one category with the same initiative and/or more than once within the same category with an unrelated initiative.

## When are winners announced?

Mark your calendar—awards will be presented on 4 March 2027 at the Due Drop Event Centre, Auckland.

It's a night to remember as the event runs alongside Site Safe's graduation for recipients of the New Zealand Certificate in Workplace Health and Safety Practice.

**SUBMIT YOUR AWARD ENTRY TODAY!**

# Key Dates

Entries open

1 June 2026

Entries close

4 November 2026

Entry judging

2 December 2026

Finalists notified

7–11 December 2026

Health, Safety and Wellbeing Awards

4 March 2027



# How to Enter

## Entry checklist:

### Set the scene

Give us the backstory. What was the problem, challenge, or opportunity that sparked change?

### Tell the transformation story

Describe the actions taken, solutions introduced, and the key roles individuals or teams played.

### Highlight the impact

How did your initiative improve health and safety systems, or inspire safer behaviours and positive change?

### Show the results

Share the tangible outcomes. How did your idea, project, or people deliver real, lasting impact to health, safety and wellbeing?

### Keep It clear and compelling

Make your entry easy to follow and focused on the positive impact on health, safety and wellbeing.

### Add the extras (Optional)

Got photos, videos, or supporting material?  
Feel free to include them!



# Entry process

Entrants are encouraged to submit their entries in PDF format via email to: [awards@sitesafe.org.nz](mailto:awards@sitesafe.org.nz)

## Each entry requires:

Completion of the entry form which may be downloaded from the Site Safe website by clicking the entry button.

Entry

Supporting evidence can be sent via PDF (e.g. video or images).

**TIP: Keep your supporting documents relevant. We do not need to receive your entire accreditations/ISO applications as evidence.**

## How long should an entry be?

Most entries should be able to be described in no more than **three pages** outlining how your idea/initiative/project/person contributed positively to health and safety.

## Can I enter more than once?

Yes! Just make sure you submit each one as a separate new entry.

## Need help?

For more information about the awards process, or if you need help with submitting your application, please contact the Site Safe team.

Email: [awards@sitesafe.org.nz](mailto:awards@sitesafe.org.nz)

Phone: 0800 SITE SAFE (748 372)

Entries close 4 November 2026

# Who judges the awards?

## Who judges the awards?

Judging is carried out by a diverse panel of four:



An independent health and safety expert in construction



An employee representative



A construction industry representative



**SITESAFE**  
Te Kaitiaki o Haumarū

A Site Safe representative

## What judges are looking for

- Proven impact** Entries must show real, measurable benefits to health, safety and wellbeing.
- Innovation** Thinking outside the square to improve how things are done.
- Leadership** Inspiring others to get involved and support the change.
- Scalability** Ideas that can be adopted industry-wide for lasting progress.
- Positivity** Making health, safety and wellbeing something people genuinely want to be part of.

## Conditions of entry

Judges reserve the right to move an entry to a different category.

Judges accept each entry on good faith as a fair and accurate. However, judges can contact the entry's nominated referee to seek clarification.

The judges' deliberations are confidential. No correspondence will be entered into.

Judges may provide feedback on request on reasons why an entry may not have been successful.

Finalists will be contacted between 7–11 December 2026.

# Award Categories

There are seven categories available for entry:

## Safety Innovation

## Award – SMALL TO MEDIUM BUSINESS 1-50 EMPLOYEES

This award is for a small to medium company demonstrating the best new thinking in health, safety and wellbeing.

This could be a new way of doing things, a new technology, a leading-edge product or forward-thinking initiative to drive improvements in health and safety systems or behaviours, address or manage a specific hazard or risk, create a design solution to address a problem, or to improve productivity.



# Safety Innovation Award

– LARGE BUSINESS  
50+ EMPLOYEES

This award is for a large company demonstrating the best new thinking in health, safety and wellbeing.

This could be a new way of doing things, a new technology, a leading-edge product or forward-thinking initiative to drive improvements in health and safety systems or behaviours, address or manage a specific hazard or risk, create a design solution to address a problem, or to improve productivity.



# Safety Leadership Award

This award is open to organisations of any size and individuals in leadership roles who are championing health and safety.

This award recognises initiatives where organisational leaders have taken visible, hands-on action to drive health, safety, and wellbeing—whether by shaping a strong safety culture, making safety a positive part of daily work, or demonstrating bold leadership in challenging the status quo.



# Safety Contribution Award for a Team

This award recognises teams (of any size) that has showcased outstanding collaboration, commitment and results in workplace health and safety.

This award acknowledges teams who have excelled at implementing effective safety initiatives, nurtured a strong safety culture, and achieved significant, measurable improvements in their health and safety performance.



# Health & Safety Champion Award

This award recognises people or teams onsite that might not have 'health and safety' in their job title, but they're the ones that everyone turns to for advice, guidance and support.

They care about people and have a deep commitment to health, safety and wellbeing. They ignite ideas, encourage change, and inspire those around them to take action to keep people safe. This award honours those champions whose passion and approach has a positive ripple effect on health and safety across teams, worksites and the wider construction industry.



# The Mental Health & Wellbeing Award

This award honours those making mental health matter onsite and beyond.

Whether it's a company, team, organisation, or individual—this category recognises outstanding efforts to support the mental wellbeing of construction workers, colleagues, and mates.

It's about more than just ticking boxes—it's about genuine care, bold initiatives, and creating a culture where people feel seen, supported, and safe to speak up.



# The Future Safety Leader Award

This award celebrates a rising star—someone with less than five years in the industry who's already making waves.

We're looking for individuals who show real promise, take initiative, and make standout contributions to health, safety and wellbeing.

They're not just doing the job—they're inspiring others, driving change, and shaping the landscape of safety in construction – a future safety leader!



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