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MEDIA RELEASE

Australian Water Association announces 2016 Tasmanian Young Water Professional of the Year

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Australian Water Association's Chief Executive Jonathan McKeown has congratulated the winner of the Australian Water Association Tasmanian Branch's 2016 Young Water Professional of the Year.

The award was presented to Mark Rippon from TasWater last night for his outstanding contribution to the Tasmanian water industry.

"Mark Rippon is a talented and capable mechanical engineer entrusted with delivery of technical and business transformation projects at TasWater," Mc McKeown said.

"In the last 18 months Mark has been instrumental in a range of major projects to improve the way TasWater does its business, how it engages with stakeholders and how it services its customers.

"Mark has provided outstanding technical and strategic leadership in his short time at TasWater, and his strong technical engineering and project management background has enabled Mark to run projects quickly and efficiently without cutting corners or ignoring stakeholders.

"Mark's success in these projects has resulted in him becoming one of TasWater's 'go-to people' when it comes to tricky projects requiring sound management and strong communication with both internal and external parties."

Tasmanian State President, Tim Gardner added: "Recognising and encouraging our young industry professionals is vital for the development of our local industry. We need to give them every opportunity and encouragement to build their career in Tasmania."

Announced at the ninth annual Galah Dinner and Debate, Mark will be entered into the equivalent national Australian Water Awards category which will be presented at Ozwater'17 in Sydney.

Mr McKeown also congratulated Simon Wright from GHD, the Highly Commended recipient for Young Water Professional of the Year.

ENDS

To arrange an interview with Jonathan McKeown or Mark Rippon, contact Ashleigh James 0488 160 277.

The Australian Water Association is an independent, not-for-profit association for water professionals and organisations, providing leadership in the water sector through collaboration, advocacy and professional development. As Australia's peak water industry body, the Australian Water Association has the largest broadly based membership, with

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approximately 700 corporate members and 5,000 individual members representing the diversity and breadth of the Australian water industry.