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AMPCONTROL RENEWS WESTPAC RESCUE HELICOPTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AS VITAL SERVICE SUPPORTS ITS OWN

- Ampcontrol extends major partnership with Westpac Rescue Helicopter for a third year
- Lifesaving mission deployed to rescue employee in serious motor vehicle accident in story of courage, survival and hope

Ampcontrol has announced its continued support of Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service at the A-League Men's Newcastle Jets 'First Responders- Appreciation Round' on Saturday 18 March 2023, extending its major community partnership with the vital emergency service for a third year.

As a supporter of the organisation for over a decade through the sponsorship of community fundraising events and workplace employee giving, Ampcontrol has strengthened its financial commitment to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service to support its critical role in the community.

Rod Henderson, Ampcontrol Managing Director & CEO, met with **Richard Jones, Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service CEO**, before Saturday's First Responders Appreciation Round game to announce the sponsorship renewal.

Richard Jones said that the support received from Ampcontrol and other corporate supporters provides vital funds that sponsor ongoing training, equipment, and resources to perform approximately 1500 missions per year.

Rod Henderson said the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service is a vital asset within our community. "As a business with over 1000 employees, we understand how important the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service is to large employers such as ourselves, our people, and the communities in which we live and serve," he says.

"Over the years, many of our people and their loved ones have benefited from the services of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter and we are so fortunate that this service and their amazing crew are available to help our own in times of critical need. We are extremely proud to be extending our financial support and commitment today as we recognise and appreciate the incredible work carried out by all first responders in our community, knowing that our support saves local lives including our own people," added Mr. Henderson.

Ampcontrol witnessed the vital lifesaving services of the Westpac Rescue Helicopter service after one of their employees required urgent transport following a serious motor vehicle accident while driving on a country road in North Western NSW, resulting in months of rehabilitation in hospital.

In February 2022, **Zac Picton, an Ampcontrol Field Service Technician**, was driving from Gunnedah to Newcastle when he had a collision with a truck travelling in the opposite direction.

Thankfully due to the dedicated work of first responders including the Volunteer Rescue Association members of Gunnedah; Police, Fire, and Ambulance from Quirindi and Gunnedah, and the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service, Zac was quickly airlifted to John Hunter Hospital.

Without the efforts of the first responders, Zac would not have survived. After an extended period in the Intensive Care Unit and over eight months of rehabilitation, Zac returned to work in November 2022.

"I'm incredibly grateful to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and all the first responders. Without their quick response, it could have been a very different outcome," says Zac Picton.

The Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service has been operating for over 45 years, providing 24-7 aeromedical services with crews delivering urgent medical treatment and assisting with search and rescues, often performing extractions in remote locations.

Ampcontrol is a Major Sponsor of the Newcastle Jets and used the 'First Responders – Appreciation Round' as an opportunity to combine their support of both the Newcastle Jets and Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service while showing appreciation to local first responders who put themselves at risk in order to save others.

Each year the Service organises many fundraising events across Northern NSW to help reach its annual community fundraising goal which assists in the funding of four base operations in Belmont, Broadmeadow, Tamworth, and Lismore NSW. Ampcontrol sponsorship will be used to support more than ten fundraising events across Northern NSW including the Ampcontrol Origin Legends Golf Day & Dinner at Cypress Lakes in June and our inaugural Newcastle Harbour Regatta next month.

Mr Henderson continued to highlight the importance of supporting community organisations, "Our people are incredibly supportive and generous when it comes to community organisation with many individuals running fundraisers and donating through workplace giving. Renewing our event partnership is our way of supporting a community organisation that means so much to those within our business."

Ends.

Ampcontrol is Australia's largest privately-owned electrical engineering company leading advanced global manufacturing of award-winning innovations, products, solutions and service to the resources, infrastructure and energy sectors. Founded in Newcastle NSW in 1968, Ampcontrol has grown to over 950 employees across 30 operations worldwide.

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About Ampcontrol

- Ampcontrol is Australia's largest privately-owned electrical engineering company leading advanced global manufacturing of award-winning innovations, products, solutions and service to the resources, infrastructure and energy sectors.
- From humble beginnings founded by four friends in a small shed in Newcastle in 1968, Ampcontrol has grown to over 950 employees across 30 operations worldwide.
- Ampcontrol co-founder, Peter Cockbain AM, is named by Engineers Australia as one of Australia's top 100 influential engineers and in 2015 he became a Member of the Order for Australia for his significant services to engineering.
- Locations include New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, Northern Territory, ACT, Asia, India, Mongolia, UK, and France.
- The largest operation is located in the Hunter, NSW, with a combined manufacturing space totalling over 21,000sqm spread over 10 different sites.
- Designed and built lifesaving emergency ventilator prototypes for the NSW Government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Developed the world's first IECEx certification for an explosion protected, hermetically sealed, nitrogen filled and pressurised mining transformer.
- Developed the industry's first 132kV emergency response mobile substation that has received RTA approval as a new special class type of vehicle due to its innovative design and ability to meet all road safety requirements.
- Developed Australia's first variable speed drive (VSD) installed on a longwall armored face conveyor in Moranbah North Longwall.
- Designed and developed a breakthrough remote water treatment system that transforms undrinkable water into pure water. Pilot project currently installed in a remote indigenous community in Gillen Bore, Northern Territory.

MULTI-AWARD WINNING ENGINEERING, DESIGN, AND INNOVATION

- 2021 Good Design Award for Excellence In Engineering Design (Solar Qube)
- 2021 Hunter Manufacturing Award for 'Excellence In Product 'Design' (Solar Qube)
- 2021 Hunter Manufacturing Award for 'Collaboration 'Partnership' (Hybrid Diesel Electric Boat)
- 2020 Hunter Business Award for Excellence In Innovation & Adaptability for 'Emergency Ventilator Project'
- 2020 Hunter Manufacturing Award for Collaboration Partnership for 'Emergency Ventilator Project'
- 2020 Hunter Manufacturing Award for Manufacturing Pivot for 'Emergency Ventilator Project'
- 2020 Lake Macquarie Business Excellence In Innovation for 'Emergency Ventilator Project'
- 2020 Consult Australia Awards for Excellence for Technological Innovation for 'Gilghi'
- 2020 [Institution of Civil Engineers](#) Chris Binnie Award for Sustainable Water Management for 'Gilghi'
- 2020 Engineering Excellence Award Newcastle Division for 'Gilghi'
- 2020 Good Design Award winner for Social Impact for 'Gilghi'
- 2020 NSW Mining Supplier of the Year
- 2020 Australian Water Association NSW Water Infrastructure Project Innovation Award for 'Gilghi'
- 2019 Hunter Business Excellence Award for Innovation' Gilghi'
- 2019 Good Design Award winner for Product Design – Commercial and Industrial for 'Rockstarter'
- 2019 Good Design Award winner for Engineering Design for 'Rockstarter'
- 2019 Scottish Engineering Awards – President's Award winner
- 2019 Lake Macquarie Business Excellence Award for Innovation for 'Gilghi'
- 2019 Mine Electrical Safety Conference Innovation Award for AFC VSD Moranbah North Longwall Project
- 2018 HunterNet Chairman Awards Excellence In Work Health Safety
- 2018 Hunter Business Awards Excellence In Business (20+ employees)
- 2018 NSW Minerals Council Outstanding Supplier for 'H3RO'
- 2017 Hunter Manufacturing Awards Excellence In Product Design for 'VoiceComm Phone'
- 2015 Engineers Australia Newcastle Engineering Excellence Award for 'Arc Fault Venting – Simulation and Practice'
- 2013 Australian Engineering Excellence Award winner for Engineering Innovation' Management of VSD earth leakage currents in fault limited networks'
- 2010 Australian Engineering Excellence Award winner for Engineering Excellence' Blakefield South 11kV longwall in partnership with Xstrata Coal and Joy Global'
- 1998 Australian Engineering Excellence Award winner for Engineering Excellence 'iMAC'