



**Media Release**

**November 2024**

**New Zealand Demolition and Asbestos Association announces the winners of the 2024 Demolition & Asbestos Awards**

The New Zealand Demolition and Asbestos Association (NZDAA) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2024 Demolition & Asbestos Awards. A total of 13 awards were awarded at this year's Annual Awards Evening held in Auckland last week.

A new Contamination Response awarded was added to the list of potential categories for companies to enter this year. This new award aligns with the associations fire guidelines that were published earlier in the year and provides companies the opportunity to showcase their excellence in this and other critical response areas.

The independent panel of judges review each entry and select the winners for each award. The 2024 awards judges were: Mark Anthony – International Journalist & Founder of Demolition News.com, James Williams – Health & Safety Consultant and Gregor Steinhorn – Sustainable Systems Advisor at Environmental Innovation Centre. The NZDAA thanks each of the judges for their time and effort in reading every submission and carefully evaluating each category.

International Judge Mark Anthony remarked, "The quality of entries this year has been truly outstanding. Some of the work showcased represents elite-class demolition at its finest. I am particularly impressed by the inclusivity demonstrated. In an industry where gender and racial inclusivity often fall short globally, New Zealand is setting a remarkable standard for others to follow."

This sentiment aligns nicely with the judges' unanimous decision to award Ashmita Singh the Employee of the Year Award. As one of a few female to receive recognition in the industry, Ashmita's achievement paves the way for more women to follow in her footsteps.

In addition to awarding the standard winner and runner-up, the judges decided to recognise several additional projects in the Class A Best Practice category with a "Highly Commended" distinction. Due to the exceptionally high number and quality of entries in this category, the judges felt it was important to acknowledge these projects, as they were all potential winners in a field of outstanding submissions.

The Contractor of the Year Award is chosen by the judges from across all the entries that were received. The winner may be selected for the range and quality of projects they entered and not necessarily because they won a specific category. This year's Contractor of the Year award recipient was Henderson Demolition who were commended by the judges for the diverse range of projects they submitted across the award categories this year.

This year's awards were generously sponsored by Beacon Safety, Crush & Screen and Indeco.

The 2024 Award Winners and Runner Ups were announced as follows:

**Health & Safety Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Henderson Demolition for its *Go Simple Go Digital Campaign*

**Runner Up:** Green Way for updates to their *Integrated Health and Safety Program*

**Environmental Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** McMahon Services for *Te Puna Hapori Site Clearance*

**Runner Up:** Ward Demolition for *Daily Freight*

**Contamination Response Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Priority Demolition for *Loafers Lodge*

**Runner Up:** Green Way for *Kiwi Rail Drury Rail Station*

**Under \$20k Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Henderson Demolition for *Ports of Auckland Portacom Demolition*

**Runner Up:** DemoWorx & ACM Removals for *Tauranga Housing Cladding*

**Assessor of the Year:**

**Winner:** Aaron O'Keefe – Asbestos Consultants

**Class B Asbestos Removal Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Henderson Demolition for *Edinburgh Countdown Pukekohe*

**Class A Asbestos Removal Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Henderson Demolition for *Auckland International Airport Airways Building*

**Runner Up:** Ward Demolition for *Longburn Freezing Works*

**Highly Commended:** ARC Asbestos Removal & Demolition, Green Way and TechClean.

**Restricted Demolition Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Ward Demolition for *the Alexandra Park Grandstand*

**Runner Up:** ARC Asbestos Removal & Demolition for *12 Knigges Ave*

**Unrestricted Demolition Best Practice Award:**

**Winner:** Taggarts Earthmoving for *Hillside Demolition Stage 2*

**Runner Up:** Ward Demolition for *Number 1 Queen Street*

**Employee of the Year:** Ashmita Singh – Henderson Demolition

**Supplier of the Year Award:** Alpha Analytics

**Services to Demolition Award:** Wayne Green – Green Way

**Contractor of the Year:** Henderson

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## 2024 Award Winner Summaries

### **Health & Safety Best Practice Award –**

#### **Henderson Demolition for its *Go Simple Go Digital Campaign***

Henderson Demolition's "Go Simple, Go Digital" initiative has revolutionised their health and safety management. By reviewing and redesigning key safety documents like Asbestos Removal Control Plans and Site Specific Safety Plans, they improved clarity and accessibility with QR codes. They also digitised daily checklists and inspections for real-time reporting, empowering teams and fostering a culture of engagement, participation, and continuous improvement. This initiative has enhanced communication, monitoring, and client relations, demonstrating our commitment to integrating technology and best practices for safer work environments across all projects.

### **Environmental Best Practice Award –**

#### **McMahon Services for *Te Puna Hapori Site Clearance***

The Te Puna Hapori project involved significant heritage management, with evidence of early Māori occupation and early settler use since the 1860's. Redevelopment of the site could have resulted in the loss of artefacts had works been carried out without archaeological considerations. Completion of works in accordance with legislature, archaeological oversight and planning by McMahons and Ministry of Justice led to the success of the project while preserving the environment and integrating archaeology and heritage into the wider project.

### **Contamination Response Best Practice Award –**

#### **Priority Demolition for *Loafers Lodge***

An arson attack devastated this three-story boarding house, claiming five lives. The fire spread quickly, damaging the mezzanine and asbestos roof. Legal disputes delayed cleanup for months, allowing black mould and water damage to worsen contamination. Declared unsafe by an asbestos assessor, the building required extensive remediation. Despite challenges, the cleanup successfully removed four stories of debris using 3m<sup>3</sup> asbestos bags, all while operating on one of Wellington's busiest streets.

### **Under \$20K Best Practice –**

#### **Henderson Demolition for *Ports of Auckland Portacom Demolition***

The removal of a portacom at the Ports of Auckland showcased Henderson's ability to navigate tight timelines and logistical challenges. By employing an offsite demolition strategy, they ensured compliance with safety and environmental standards while maintaining client satisfaction. Utilising three drivers to deal with the removal of the portacom, allowed this small-scale project to be carried out with minimal disruptions or delays, and left the manual demolition team to appropriately deal with the ThermoPanel EPS material in a controlled environment off-site.

### **Class B Removal Best Practice -**

#### **Henderson Demolition for *Edinburgh Countdown Pukekohe***

This project involved the safe removal of Class B asbestos-containing cladding from the exterior of an active Countdown supermarket. Staged removal, enhanced scaffolding for safe access, and strategic planning for weather-tightness and public safety were critical to managing risks in this busy, high-traffic location. Through careful coordination with the client, the team completed the project efficiently, safeguarding public health and maintaining compliance with WorkSafe New Zealand standards.

### **Class A Removal Best Practice –**

#### **Henderson Demolition for *Auckland International Airport Airways Building***

The Auckland Airport Airways Asbestos Removal project involved safely removing over 82 tonnes of asbestos-containing materials in a high-traffic, operational environment. Faced with structural challenges, hidden asbestos, and confined spaces, the Henderson team utilised innovative techniques like precision core drilling and custom containment solutions. Despite multiple scope revisions, the project was completed on time with zero incidents. Henderson Demolition's close coordination with Auckland International Airport, strict regulatory compliance, and adaptable approach ensured the safety of workers and the public.

### **Restricted Demolition Best Practice –**

#### **Ward Demolition for *the Alexandra Park Grandstand***

Ward Demolition successfully completed the demolition of the 100-year-old Alexandra Park grandstand. Faced with challenges including extensive asbestos contamination, proximity next to an occupied building, and complex structural requirements, Ward achieved a 99% recycling rate, strictly adhered to safety and regulatory standards, and maintained zero Lost Time Injuries. This project is an example of Ward's commitment to sustainable demolition, environmental responsibility and highlights the team's innovative approach, collaboration, and positive community engagement.

### **Unrestricted Demolition Best Practice –**

#### **Taggart for *Hillside Demolition Stage 2***

The Hillside Stage 2 demolition project successfully deconstructed 21 buildings over 50,000 square meters while prioritising safety and sustainability. Effective communication, on-time delivery, and robust waste diversion strategies enhanced client satisfaction. Strong stakeholder engagement and management ensured minimal disruption, fostering a positive relationship with KiwiRail.