



MEDIA RELEASE

MDRT Australia Chairperson Reflects on First Year & Announces New Appointments

Monday September 30, 2013. Reflecting on his first year as Australian Chairperson of Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) The Premier Association of Financial Professionals® Ross Hultgren said that the global membership based organisation has achieved many successes in Australia and continued to keep pace with change, remaining relevant to the needs of its members and industry.

MDRT Australia started 2013 with 168 members, an increase of 23 over the previous year. Other milestones included 21 members celebrating anniversaries of membership ranging from 10 to 40 years.

In addition, 116 members travelled to the Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in June of which 25 were first time attendees and five Australian speakers were also Main Platform and Focus Session presenters.

As Ross Hultgren enters his second and final year as Australian Chairperson, he acknowledges that MDRT's successes were the result of a team effort with State Chapter Chairs playing a vital role in connecting with members at a local level.

“The State Chapter Chairs are to be commended for their energy, dedication and commitment to promoting the benefits of membership through their respective and extensive calendar of events and activities”, said Ross Hultgren.

“The National Executive team works closely together to ensure that MDRT continues to thrive as an organisation and provide members with opportunities to broaden their skills and expertise on state, national, regional and international committees as well as senior leadership roles”.

Across Australia at all events and through the MDRT's marketing and communication activities, there has been a concerted focus on emphasizing and promoting MDRT's *Whole Person Concept* by showcasing exemplary members that have successfully balanced their professional and personal priorities.

Identifying successful role model members with thriving practices, their

Continues...

initiatives that increased productivity and tips for achieving work / life balance will continue to be a priority and core objective for the MDRT Australia team.

Hultgren also announced that Sue Paterson, previously Queensland State Chair, has been appointed MDRT Australia Deputy Chairperson. PJ Byrne, a qualifying MDRT member and Court of the Table is the new State Chair for the State.

In welcoming Sue Paterson as Australian Deputy Chairperson, Hultgren acknowledged her achievements as past Queensland Chair that did much to raise the profile of MDRT and promote membership growth.

The friends and supporters of former Australia Chairperson Bev Carlyon were very excited to learn that she was the new Divisional Vice President for Australia / Oceania and the first female in this very important role.

Brisbane based Ross Vanderwolf continues as Divisional Vice President of the Membership Communications Committee (all zones). Bev Carlyon is a member of this committee too.

Brad Isaac, Victorian Chair has been invited to join the IT Committee.

Ross Hultgren concluded, “While many organisations and iconic brands have fallen by the wayside over recent years, MDRT continues to go from strength to strength reflecting its steadfast commitment to the core values that were established when it was first founded in 1927”.

“I am looking forward to the year ahead with much excitement by continuing to promote the benefits of MDRT membership through the National Executive by providing members and potential members with new and innovative programs and resources that will assist them to succeed in all aspects of their lives”.

ENDS

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