

23 November 2011

## **BLACKMORES NAMED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AT NSW BUSINESS CHAMBER ANNUAL AWARDS**

NSW's peak business organisation, NSW Business Chamber, is proud to announce Blackmores as the winner of its Business of the Year Award, as well as the Employer of Choice Award.

Blackmores received the Awards during the NSW Business Chamber's Annual Awards Dinner at the Sydney Town Hall on Friday night.

The Employer of Choice Award recognises organisations that put in place strategies and initiatives to create stimulating and supportive workplace environments for their employees. These initiatives must have a positive impact on both employees and the organisation as a whole.

As the winner of the Employer of Choice Award, Blackmores qualified as a finalist and eventually won the overall Business of the Year Award.

Blackmores recognises that being an Employer of Choice is not isolated to HR practices or employee benefits. It is central to their values to ensure they create a workplace that is optimal for employees. Blackmores demonstrates this focus through its 'Wellness at Work programme' where it strives to create a flexible working environment that takes into account family situations, career goals, health and wellbeing needs and rewards for passion and dedication in the form of competitive salaries, financial incentives and staff benefits. This focus is best demonstrated by its Wellness Centre which provides staff with health and beauty treatments, a gymnasium and a healthy café.

"Congratulations to Blackmores for being the stand out nominee at the NSW Business Chamber's Annual Awards Dinner," said Stephen Cartwright, CEO of the NSW Business Chamber.

"The company's commitment to people, product and customers is why it has been so successful in achieving business growth in Australia and overseas, and why we have recognised them as the Employer of Choice and Business of the Year.

"Blackmores asks a lot from their staff in terms of commitment, passion and performance, and in return, they have created a highly flexible workplace that allows employees to enjoy a good work life balance."

Christine Holgate, CEO of Blackmores said the company was honoured to be recognised as the NSW Business Chamber's Business of the Year, and as the Employer of Choice.

“Blackmores strives to align its values with its business and people and are incredibly proud of its achievements culminating in a 96% acceptance vote from staff for its most recent collective bargaining and enterprise agreements,” said Ms Holgate.

“What really unites us at Blackmores is that we have this very strong philosophical belief that natural health allows people to live better lives.

“You need to have passionate people who are engaged emotionally in their work, and that’s what we have at Blackmores.”

The Employer of Choice Award was sponsored by Corporate Express.

**Media Contact: Chris Taylor 0419 692 236**

