

# Mining company wins

## national honour

LOCAL business AVKO Mining received the 2007 Telstra regional award at a gala ceremony in Sydney last Friday night.

The mining company accepted the prestigious accolade from group managing director of Telstra Country Wide, Geoff Booth.

More than 460 guests witnessed their triumph at the black-tie event, which was hosted by television personalities Rove McManus and Chris Bath.

Managing director and founder, Paul Hurley, his wife Coralie, their children and key members of the team all attended the presentation.

According to AVKO's executive officer, Allison Deadman, the experience was "fantastic".

She enjoyed meeting "great people" from "such a high calibre of businesses".

Company representatives took part in a motivational workshop on the morning of the event, making good contacts across the nation.

"We all stayed at the Hilton in Sydney which was a real treat," Ms Deadman said.

The champagne flowed on their arrival at the red carpet occasion where well-known businessman Michael Gudinski gave the inspirational keynote speech. Performances by pop vocal group Human Nature added to the glamour.

Last month, AVKO Mining was named 2007 Telstra Western Australian Business of the Year.

The regional award is open to all national finalists of the competition that are located in a regional area.

Telstra Business Awards ambassador and managing director, Deena Shiff highlighted the "excellence of candidates coming through the program".

She said that Telstra was committed to supporting the growth and development of small to medium sized businesses "by providing the tools they need to realize their potential".



**WINNING COMBINATION:** At last Friday night's ceremony were (standing) Rick Simard, Ivana Castle, Tristan Hurley, Allison Deadman, Amanda Durkin, Steve Durkin, Blake Hurley, Sharman Hurley and (seated) Deena Shiff, Paul Hurley, Chanel Hurley and Coralie Hurley.

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