

## Three Goldfields businesses among final award contenders

By Heather O'Neill

THREE Kalgoorlie-Boulder businesses will attend a gala dinner tonight for the naming of the 2007 Telstra Western Australian Business Awards in Perth.

Goldfields Crane Hire, Squirty Hydraulic and Mechanical and AVKO Mining Pty Ltd are among the 22 State finalists.

Goldfields Crane Hire and Squirty Hydraulic and Mechanical have been named finalists in the MYOB Business Award category, which was open to businesses with between five and 20 employees.

Goldfields Crane Hire managing director Rick Musarra said last year's local business awards success and the marketing benefits prompted him to enter the Telstra awards.

"Last year we actually entered the Goldfields Business of the Year which we won our category for employees and then won Business of the Year," he said.

"The confidence that our clients can take that we are doing things right and want to continue doing to keep doing things right - being able to market our business through those awards has been huge."

Squirty Hydraulic and Mechanical managing director Kurt Wescombe said being named a finalist was a

significant tribute and offers marketing potential.

"We're very proud of what we have done and we have always tried to succeed at what we do and we have finally proved that we can," he said.

"I suppose it's a bit of exposure to show people out there how well we are going - a Kalgoorlie company that is locally owned and to get our name out there a little bit more and a pat on the back."

AVKO Mining Pty Ltd has been named a finalist in the Hudson Business Award category, which was open to businesses with between 50 and 100 employees.

AVKO Mining Pty Ltd executive officer Allison Deadman said being named a finalist benefited all people associated with the company.

"It's a great privilege to be named in those finalists," she said.

"A big part of it for us is the recognition for the service that we provide and the team that we have working for us, as well as looking at the exposure that it provides AVKO with."

The 22 finalists also have the chance to win the AMP Innovation Award for a procedure, product or service.

The category winners are then considered for the 2007 Telstra Western Australian Business of the Year award.