

# Category 5: Young Stabiliser of the Year

Andrew Wyett  
Stabilisation Crew Member

Downer EDI Works



2021 AustStab Awards of Excellence

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# Overview

A time of uncertainty for hundreds of people when General Motors Holden ended local car manufacturing in October of 2017. Closure of the iconic Holden plant at Elizabeth in Adelaide and subsequent forced redundancy brought an end to what was shaping up to be a successful career for Andrew. Fortunately, another door opened for Andrew in an entirely new field at Downer.



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# Initiative

Media campaigns were run, emotions were high, and every business was vested in doing their bit to absorb the demise of what was once a strong pillar for the SA economy. Downer was one of these businesses and Andrew was one of many ex Holden applicants who applied for a role.



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# Success

- Andrew is the first to admit that he was very green with limited experience in stabilisation and civil construction. Selected from a deep field of ex Holden candidates his attitude, work ethic and willingness to learn was soon proven from the outset.
- Commencing on a roller, Andrew soon become competent on a water cart, tipper, skidsteer, loader, excavator and shoulder paver before finally progressing into stabilisers and spreader trucks.

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# Data

- Beyond operating machinery, Andrew's aptitude and enthusiasm has seen him successfully undertake numerous challenges to manage and run packages of work for the State Road Authority. Noteworthy of these was the cement stabilisation of the Kapunda to Marrabel Road shoulders. This was a steep learning curve and growth period as Andrew managed the client, crew of 9 in full swing, and ordering the binder for the following day's production; all whilst operating the stabiliser.

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# Practicality

- Andrew has just completed a section of the Ngarkat Highway, which entailed 8km of full width triple blend stabilisation. This project also included a further 50 plus patches with the same treatment that Andrew provided key input for successful execution. He is currently stabilising floodways with a triple blend treatment south of Oodnadatta.
- Andrew was nominated for a leadership role after only 2 years with Downer. In the last 18 months he has fulfilled the OHS Representative role to be the voice for his teammates and participates in quarterly Zero Harm meetings with other Downer divisions on behalf of the Stabilisation Business.
- Andrew is very appreciative of the 'leg up' to get into the industry and thanks his supervisors that have afforded him the onsite opportunities to learn. He is looking forward to expanding his FBS knowledge with the future program of secured works.

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