

# Matrix wins premier's prize

■ Kym Fuhrmann

MALAGA-BASED Matrix Composites and Engineering and the Perth Mint were the big winners at the recent 2010 West Australian Industry and Export Awards.

Matrix won the premier's award for excellence and the large advanced manufacturing export award.

The Perth Mint received the marketing and design excellence award and was inducted into the Hall of Fame, after previously winning the design and excellence award in 2005, 2006, 2007, and 2009.

Commerce, Science and Innovation Minister Bill Marmion said Matrix had established a solid national and international reputation as a leading manufacturer of engineered products for the subsea oil and gas, mining and defence industries.

"The oil and gas industry is vital to the growth of WA's economy and companies such as Matrix play an important role in the development of this sector," he said.

"Matrix is an export orientated company and its products, which are all manufactured in WA, are exported to countries such as Brazil, Korea, the US and a number of other international destinations.

"The company is also planning to open a new world-class production facility at the Australian Marine Complex in Henderson."

Other companies to be recognised included diagnostic imaging services company Imaging the South, which



**REPUTATION:** Matrix has been recognised for its work as a manufacturer of engineered products for the subsea oil and gas, mining and defence industries. **Photo: Matrix**

received the C.Y. O'Connor award for excellence in engineering.

Based in Bunbury, Imaging the South has recently re-branded to Global Diagnostics, and is almost entirely devoted to servicing regional and rural WA. It also received a commendation in the innovation and excellence category.

Western Mineral Fertilisers, based in Tenterden, was the only other regional company to win an award, winning in the innovation and excellence category.

The company has developed a technologically advanced minerals

fertiliser formulation and manufacturing process with soil and microbe blends.

Other winners were: Silver Trowel Trade Training – emerging exporter; Epichem – small business export award; MineARC Systems – small to medium manufacturer export award; Wescobee – agri-business export award; Micromine – information and communication technology export award; Silverise – services export award; Dampier Salt – minerals and energy export award; and Nativas – education and training award.