



NOMINATIONS NOW BEING CALLED for the International Aerial Firefighting Award

The **Walt Darran International Aerial Firefighting Award** is presented annually to recognise a significant contribution by an individual or organisation to aerial firefighting. It was first awarded in 2014 at the [Aerial Firefighting Conference](#) in Sacramento, CA, USA.

The **International Aerial Firefighting Award** is named after the late Walt Darran who was a highly experienced airtanker pilot from California, USA and a constant and passionate advocate for safety and improvement in aerial firefighting industry.

The award is administered by the Walt Darran Award Committee which is currently made up of a consortium of existing groups involved in aerial firefighting from International Fire Aviation Working Group (IFAWG), UN-ISDR Wildland Fire Advisory Group (WFAG) members & Associated Aerial Firefighters.

We are now calling for nominations to receive the award for 2016.

The Award Charter states:

- Any person who has made a significant contribution to furthering the safety and/or effectiveness and/or efficiency of aerial firefighting is eligible to be nominated. The Award may recognise contributions either over recent year(s) or over a sustained period.
- An organisation that has made an outstanding contribution to furthering the safety and/or effectiveness and/or efficiency of aerial firefighting is also eligible to be nominated

The closing date for nominations is 19 February 2016. The Award committee will convene after the close of nominations to consider selection.



The **International Aerial Firefighting Award** is named after the late **Walt Darran** who was a highly experienced airtanker pilot from California, USA. He was a constant and passionate advocate for safety and improvement in aerial firefighting. He acted as President of the AAF – Association of Aerial Firefighters from 2009 – 2013.

George Petterson, formerly of the US National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), was the first recipient of the Award in 2014. George received the award because he was instrumental in determining the cause of two fatal crashes of air tankers.



Philippe Bodino, French Ministry of the Interior – National Bureau of Administrative Investigation & Control, was the second recipient of the Award in 2015. Philippe contributed to the improvement of operational procedures in the fight against forest fires through air assets. He participated in the development of the national strategy in massive attack of fire starts. He constantly improved safety of pilots and first responders.



INTERNATIONAL AERIAL FIREFIGHTING AWARD

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Details of Nominee

(recommendation to receive the Walt Darran Award)

Name of Nominee or Nominated Organisation	
Name of Organisation	
Statement outlining the eligibility for the Award	
Contribution to aerial firefighting Should you wish to add extra information please include on a separate sheet	
Background of Nominee	

Details of Nominator

(who is submitting the details)

Name of Nominator			
Company/Organisation			
Job Title			
Full Address			
Postcode/Zip		Country	
Tel		Fax	
Mobile		Email	

Please email / fax this form to **Kate Niven**

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