



12th August 2009

PGG Wrightson continue their support of the Standardbred Industry

PGG Wrightson today became the fourth “Key Partner” to join with the New Zealand Standardbred Breeders Assn.

PGG Wrightson has been a constant and enthusiastic supporter of harness racing. Their commitment to the New Zealand standardbred breeding and racing industry is unquestioned and it continues in these uncertain times. The NZSBA are confident that the partnership will be of benefit to both PGG Wrightson and the NZ standardbred breeder, many of whom sell or buy at the PGG Wrightson sales held in Auckland and Christchurch.

The NZSBA are also pleased to announce that as part of the package PGG Wrightson will be the inaugural sponsor of the national Broodmare of Excellence award. PGGW’s Peter Lagan is hugely passionate about the significance of the award. “It creates a ‘Hall of Fame’ recognising the absolutely outstanding contributions made by these wonderful mares”.

The coveted award was previously presented by HRNZ, sponsored by NZSBA, but has now been handed over to the NZSBA. “The Breeders in continuing this award will reward notable achievement and contribution of quality to the breed by past broodmares” said John Mooney Chairman of NZSBA. “The mare may have passed on but her contribution is there for all to see in the racing and breeding stock of today.”

The newly named PGG Wrightson Broodmare of Excellence will be presented at a special function on the eve of the New Zealand Cup, on Monday 9th November. At the same function NZSBA will present certificates to the breeders of the 2009 NZ Cup runners and a replica NZ Cup to the breeders of Changeover the winner of the 2008 Cup.

“It was a natural fit that PGG Wrightson be approached for sponsorship of the NZSBA. Over the years the NZSBA, and its affiliates, and PGG Wrightson have worked alongside each other on many projects. The yearling sales put millions of dollars into the economy each year. Horses sold through the Australasian and Premier sales run by PGG Wrightson have an above average representation in the Group win results. The quality shines through these sales.” said John Mooney, NZSBA Chairman

“The sponsorship also presents an opportunity to open up the channels of communication between the breeders and PGG Wrightson, leading to a win-win situation for all.” John added. “One of our first joint projects of the next year, with HRNZ, and in consultation with breeders will be to review the standards for black type given the significant reductions in race times in recent years.”

PGG Wrightson last year sold over 700 standardbreds in their yearling, mixed stock, broodmare and ready-to-run sales. Many of our top racehorses have been brought via the sales process, making for a hassle free way of marketing and selling stock.

Bruce Barlass for the PGGW Standardbred Team said “The Associations upbeat, unified and down to business approach for the good of all breeders and owners alike was the satisfying and positive part of all this.”

For more information on PGG Wrightson or the NZSBA please visit our website www.harnessracing.co.nz

Kiely Buttell
Executive Manager