

AUSTLII MEDIA RELEASE



Australasian Legal Information Institute

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AustLII - Best Openness Award – Runner-Up

.auDA and InternetNZ, the Internet domain name administrators for Australia and New Zealand hosted the 2010 Internet Best Practice Awards Dinner on 18 October 2010.

.auDA and InternetNZ awarded The Australasian Legal Information Institute (AustLII) runner-up of the best openness initiative. AustLII was the inaugural winner of this Award in 2009. This Award continues to recognise AustLII's online legal public library services that enable Internet users to benefit from increased access to online materials, knowledge and information.

AustLII was recognised on the basis of it constituting best practice for free access, its high usage and for being a model adopted by others. Today there are legal information institutes around the world using AustLII's model and open source software to provide free access to law online.

This year AustLII celebrates 15 years of free access to law. Today, AustLII provides over 440 databases for free access. Since its inception, AustLII adds on average a new database for free access every fortnight and in 2009 it received over 305 million hits to its website. AustLII continues to expand the legal resources available for free access.

Access to the rule of law is integral to the functioning of a democratic society. AustLII's founders, Professors Andrew Mowbray and Graham Greenleaf, were motivated to create AustLII as the public has the right to access the law that it is bound by.

The Awards recognise companies, organisations, charities and individuals that have made significant contributions towards the security, openness, diversity and accessibility of the Internet. The Awards are based on the four main themes of the United Nations' Internet Governance Forum.

AustLII is honoured to be recognised two years in a row and is pleased to receive the Award as it celebrates 15 years of providing free access to law in 2010.

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