

Incubator grows into an award-winning example

By Nick Soon

QUAKER'S Hill-based Nirimba Business Centre has been declared the 2009 Australian Business Incubator of the Year.

The announcement was made during the recent Small Business Development Conference at Bondi.

The centre opened its doors at the Nirimba Education Precinct in 1997 with the help of a Federal Government grant.

Its aim was to help entrepreneurs expand their business.

It was declared a self-funded project of the Blacktown Regional Economic and Employment Development Taskforce in 1998.

In winning the recent title, the centre beat 120 other groups from around the country.

Taskforce managing director Stephen Frost said the award recognised the work of the centre's staff, directors and the community.

Also last week, Mr Frost was appointed a director of Business Innovation and Incubation Australia.

He will be attending the United Kingdom Business



Recognition for hard work: Stephen Frost.

Picture: Gene Ramirez

Incubation conference in Belfast this week and an international forum on small business next year.

"Over the past 12 years the business centre has assisted 126 businesses to start and expand," he said.

"These businesses have grown to employ 300 people and contributed about \$4.5 million to the community."

For more details about the centre visit www.nirimba.com.au.