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Proud day for Barkuma

BARKUMA Incorporated has won the inaugural supported employees team award at the National Disability Services Employment Conference in Brisbane this week.

A specially formed reference group at Barkuma won the award for its negotiation of the 2007 collective agreement.

Barkuma commercial services general manager Justin Farr says the goal was to empower supported employees in their employment rights. Barkuma has 155 supported employees with a disability working at Elizabeth and Campbelltown.

The members of the reference group, which also included parents and staff, negotiated the agreement over 14 months and developed a range of materials to inform co-workers of the outcomes. This included a plain-English description of the agreement and visual aids for those with reading difficulties.