

Biography

Graeme Wood, Founder & Executive Director Wotif.com (www.wotif.com)

Background

Graeme Wood revolutionised the travel industry in Australia when he created the concept for, and co-founded, Wotif.com in 2000. From his simple and innovative idea, Graeme pioneered Wotif.com's development into a multi-national group, which employs more than 400 people in offices spread across the globe.

During his seven years at the helm, Wotif.com became one of Australia's most successful and well-known online businesses, with Graeme and the company winning awards and accolades along the way, including:

- Overall Winner and Winner of Outstanding Achievement by an Organisation in the Services Sector – Premier of Queensland's SMART Awards 2004
- Australian Institute of Management Medal for Management Innovation – 2004 Management Excellence Awards
- National winner of the Technology, Communications, E-Commerce and Life Sciences category – 2005 Ernst and Young, Entrepreneur of the Year awards
- Winner of the Inspiration iAward and the Tourism & Hospitality category – AIIA iAwards 2006
- Winner of the "Most significant contribution by a large business or corporate" at the Vero Excellence in Business Support Awards 2007
- Three consecutive annual awards from Hitwise Internet intelligence service, announcing Wotif.com as the #1 Travel – Destinations and Accommodation website across Australia for 2004 to 2007
- 2008 Suncorp Queenslander of the Year – the state's highest citizenship honour, recognising individuals who have made a significant achievement in their chosen field and who have made a difference in their community.



Graeme also rates overseeing Wotif.com's listing on the Australian Stock Exchange in June 2006, as a major career highlight.

In October 2007, Graeme retired from his role as CEO and Managing Director of Wotif.com, but continues to play a key strategic role in the company as an Executive Director and also maintains a significant financial interest. In his new position, Graeme is focused on developing new business concepts and the ongoing promotion of Wotif.com.

With a background in information technology, Graeme has more than 30 years' experience in the field of information systems and software development, having worked at NCR and later IBM. His career as an entrepreneur began in the early 1980s with the first of several technology start-ups.

Graeme is a graduate of the University of Queensland, Australia, with a Bachelor of Economics and Master of Information Systems. He is a frequent speaker at functions, covering topics relevant to the travel industry, as well as entrepreneurship and innovation.

He is an avid yachtsman who placed first in his division in the 2005 Sydney to Hobart Yacht Race. Graeme continues to race competitively.

His not-for-profit interests through The Graeme Wood Foundation and the Wot's Next Program support youth development initiatives in the arts, sailing, and conservation.

Guest Speaking Topics

Graeme welcomes the opportunity to speak on topics such as:

- Innovation
- Sustainable tourism
- Creative futures

About Wotif.com

Wotif.com sells accommodation online in over 44 countries.

Our great rates, broad accommodation range, easy-to-use site and 24/7 Customer Service Centre have made us the most popular way for business and leisure travellers in Australia and New Zealand to book accommodation online. Every month our site attracts almost 3.2 million visits, with customers making over 200,000 bookings through our 28-day booking window.

We launched in Brisbane, Australia, in March 2000 and now have offices in Canada, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore and the United Kingdom to support our growing international presence. Wotif.com is listed on the ASX, trading under the code WTF.

Contact Details

For further information, please contact the Wotif.com Public Relations Team on (07) 3512 9999 or via pr@wotif.com.