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First time tipsters take home Monroe's top prize

It seems experience doesn't mean much when it comes to picking a winning team – with two first time entrants winning this year's NRL and AFL Monroe Footy Tipping competitions.

Richard Smith and Steve Schmidt both entered the online competition for the first time this year and after walking away as winners say they are already looking forward to being part of next year's tipping.

"I will definitely be part of the competition next year," Steve said. "This was the first time I had ever entered a footy tipping competition online – I even went overseas for four weeks so had to put my tips in before I went – and I still won!"

Richard – who was within the top 10 throughout the NRL season- said picking his teams early in the week was the key to his success.

"I like to put my tips in a week early as there is a lot of media and emotion later in the week that is easy to get caught up in," he said.

"The other thing I look at is where teams are on the ladder and who the home team is if I am not too sure."

Richard fought off more than 1100 eager automotive trade tipsters to win the NRL draw, while Steve competed against 1500 people to win the top AFL prize. Both are now the lucky owners of a deluxe massage chair and mini bar-fridge worth almost \$3000 each.

Roger Lassen, National Director of Aftermarket for Tenneco – the makers of Monroe shock absorbers, said the competition attracted more than 2000 tipsters in the Super 14s, AFL and NRL draws this year.

"It is free and it's a great way of getting involved in some friendly competition with others from the automotive industry," he said.

"What's more, after this year's excellent results, 2008 is set to be even bigger and better - and there will always be some great prizes on offer."

Anyone in the automotive trade in Australia or New Zealand can enter and it costs nothing to have a go. Tipsters can see how they rate against other businesses, automotive professions and states thanks to a number of unique features on the web site which allow direct comparison.

Monroe's tipping competitions will return next year, with the Super 14s draw starting in January followed by the NRL and AFL in March 2008.

MEDIA INFORMATION



Tenneco is the world's largest producer and marketer of ride control and exhausts systems and products. Tenneco manufactures products under the Monroe, Walker and Lukey brands at its facilities in Clovelly Park and O'Sullivan's Beach, Adelaide.