
In memory of Trade Commissioner Craig Senger

Austrade staff throughout the world were shocked and saddened to learn that Trade Commissioner Craig Senger had died in the terrorist attack on the JW Marriott Hotel on Friday, 17 July 2009.

Craig Senger joined Austrade in 1998 and was posted to Jakarta as Trade Commissioner and leader of Austrade's ASEAN Mining and Energy team in 2008. At the time of his death, he was attending a business meeting to promote Australia's business interests in the mining sector.

Craig's passion for helping Australian businesses in the mining sector was exemplified by the key role he played in the success of the OzMine trade show, which was held in February in Indonesia. Over 80 Australian businesses exhibited at the event, making it the largest Austrade-organised mining event in 10 years. OzMine was opened by His Excellency Purnomo Yusgiantoro, the Indonesian Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources. Other significant events in which Craig played an important role during the year included the ExpLORE Philippines mission in February and a mining mission to Vietnam in May.

During his career in Austrade, Craig undertook assignments in Milan, New Delhi and Moscow. He moved to Jakarta in March 2008 to take up his first long-term overseas posting. In doing so, Craig followed in the footsteps of his grandfather, Albert Senger, who served as an Australian trade commissioner in Italy during the early 1950s.

Craig also played an active role in the social life of Austrade, contributing his time and enthusiasm to sports and social club activities. His colleagues remember him as generous, decent and passionate about helping Australian businesses.

In marking the death of the first Australian diplomat to be killed in a terrorist attack, the Minister for Trade, the Hon Simon Crean MP, stated: 'Public service is a noble cause. It's pursued at its best by those people of conviction and passion. Craig had this in spades.'

Austrade CEO Peter O'Byrne paid tribute to Craig's commitment and enthusiasm for his work: 'He served our organisation and his country with distinction. His loss is felt deeply by the many Austrade staff who worked alongside him. We remember Craig as a charming and kind man – a thorough professional and a genuine servant of the Australian community.'

Craig's colleagues and friends in Austrade extend their condolences to Craig's wife Kate, his mother Joan and his sister Cate, as well as their families and his many friends.



Craig Senger alongside Indonesian Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources HE Purnomo. In the background is Ambassador Bill Farmer, AO, Australian Ambassador to Indonesia.