

Canberra-based business plans to grow and improve

MANAGEMENT consultancy Richardson:O'Rourke has been made a finalist in the prestigious 2007 Telstra Business Awards for the second year in a row.

This year they will compete for honours against other successful Canberra-based businesses in the Panasonic Business Awards category, open to businesses with 21-50 employees.

It's been a busy 12 months for Richardson:O'Rourke. The company celebrated its fifth birthday in June, was listed in the 2007 *Business Review Weekly* Fast Starters and opened its first satellite office on St Kilda Road in Melbourne.

"It was a logical extension," executive director Stuart Richardson said. "Melbourne has a strong sense of community and is

more relationship based. It's much like Canberra in many ways."

Inspired by the challenge to excel in an industry that has tremendous potential, the company's founders Stuart Richardson and David O'Rourke were just 23 and 31 years old respectively when they went into business together.

Richardson:O'Rourke began providing project management expertise to the market and, in line with their business plan, branched into associated specialties including enterprise technology and business management consulting.

The company has worked hard to develop a profile of its 'ideal client' and actively seeks clients that share their vision and drive.

The team at Richardson:O'Rourke spends a lot of time getting to know its clients so it can tailor solutions to the organisation, implement effective mentoring and skills-transfer systems, avoid duplication, save clients' time and money and ultimately enhance workplace cultures over time.

"Fundamentally we solve our clients' business challenges through a blend of experience and innovation and equip them with the skills to ensure these solutions endure," Mr Richardson said.

The company now employs 26 staff members. It has recently outgrown its Manuka-based office and is about to relocate to Braddon.

"Stuart and I are like minded

and have the passion to achieve our goals. We knew from the early days that Canberra was a great place to grow a business and the lessons we have learnt here will guide our international expansion," managing director David O'Rourke said.

Richardson O'Rourke undertakes work ranging from specifically developing business and communication strategies to support a NASDAQ 100-listed company on its entry and growth in the Federal Government market to working with Australia's largest engineering consultancy to provide specialist advice on a complex \$100 million building redevelopment project in Watsonia, Melbourne.

Phone 6163 9000 for details or go to www.richardson-orourke.com