



Mr. Robert Styling AFSM OAM

Robert commenced his working career as an Apprentice Fitter and Machinist in the South Australian Railways, becoming a specialist in locomotive fuel and engine management systems. He ultimately became Master of Apprentices in Australian National and developed and conducted a number of management development programs whilst seconded to the Human Resources Division. He has degrees in Adult and Further Education and Human Resources Management and an MBA.

After leaving the Railways he became General Manager of Human Resources/Deputy CEO at Phoenix Society spending 28 years in that role. During this time, he developed a number of nationally and internationally recognized programs for people with disabilities as well as developing a competency-based wage assessment tool that is now used widely in NZ and Malaysia. He was appointed a Life Member of Phoenix Society in 2008.

He was actively involved in the disability industry's peak body, National Disability Services (NDS), in both South Australia and Nationally for over 15 years. He was appointed to a number of advisory and reference groups by both state and federal governments particularly in the area of employment for people with a disability and the development of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). He was awarded Life Membership of NDS in 2014.

He has also undertaken work as a consultant in disability employment programs both in Australia and Asia. He is still working with the Malaysian Government on a project to provide better employment outcomes for people with disabilities in Malaysia.

He is currently a Director on the Board of Mobo Group, a large disability employment business in South Australia. He has previously served on the Boards of Finding Workable Solutions and the CFS Foundation.

He held the position of CEO of the CFS Foundation from 2015 until 2017 following his retirement from Phoenix. He was a member of the Foundation's Board for over 8 years and was subsequently employed to transition the Foundation through a period of significant growth and to strengthen the corporate governance as a result of that growth.

He is a Fellow of the Australian Human Resources Institute and has previously been a mentor as part of their Mentoring Program and a Judge for the Institute's HR Practitioner of the year Awards.

Robert has been in the CFS for 49 years and during that time spent 12 years as Captain of the Salisbury Brigade, 4 years as a Deputy Group Officer and the last 10 years as Group Officer of the Para Group.

He was awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM) in the 2006 Australia Day Honors and an OAM in the 2012 Australia Day Honors for service to the disability sector and the community and has a number of other decorations including 2 Ministerial Commendations and a Commendation for Brave Conduct. He is a Life member of the CFS and the Salisbury CFS.

He has extensive experience in developing and conducting leadership training and other courses within the CFS and has also served on a number of advisory groups over the years. During his service, he has seen action in most of the major fires in South Australia and has been on a number of interstate deployments with the CFS, notably in NSW and Victoria in both active firefighting and incident management roles. He is qualified as a Level 2 Incident Controller as well as a number of Level 3 IMT roles.

He has a long-held passion for motorsport having worked as a Fire Marshal at every F1 Australian Grand Prix since its inception in 1985 and every Adelaide 500. He is currently the Chief Fire Marshal for the Australian Grand Prix and Chief Fire Marshal for the Covid delayed Vietnamese F1 Grand Prix. In this role, he is responsible for all fire and rescue resources at these events.

He has completed the Australian Institute of Sport Mentor Training Program and mentors volunteer officials as part of the Motorsport Australia Mentoring Program, including mentoring and training Officials for the Vietnamese F1 Grand Prix in Hanoi.

He has been married to Dianne for 46 years and they have 3 adult children and 7 grandchildren and is also a Justice of the Peace.