



Barry Maney

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Mount Gambier is home to Hyundai's Regional Master Technician of the Year

BARRY Maney Hyundai technician Andrew "Normie" Norman, 29, represented South Australia and the Northern Territory in the car manufacturer's Motor World Skills Olympics in Sydney on October 6 and 7.

He was one of nine technicians taking part in the competition's ninth year. Participants were given 40 minutes to test, troubleshoot and resolve common issues in vehicle systems.

They were keenly observed and judged throughout and despite the unusual working conditions, Mr Norman enjoyed the challenge. "It's very nerve-rattling stuff when someone's behind you with a clipboard," he said.

Meeting and working with the cream of Australia's Hyundai master technician crop has helped to improve his already high level of technical training. As a qualified auto electrician, who also completed his apprenticeship with Barry Maney Hyundai, Mr Norman said his mechanical skills had benefitted from the competition.

Despite his regional title success, two technicians from New South Wales and Victoria emerged victorious from the competition, and will travel to Korea this week to represent Australia for the title of the world's best Hyundai master technician.

Meanwhile, Mr Norman is extending on his 10 years working at Barry Maney Hyundai. He said he "fell into" the career in pursuit of his interest in electronics, which has "worked well" for him.

"I enjoy working on cars," Mr Norman said. "You get a bit out of it when you can fix something and help people."

Barry Maney Hyundai car sales consultant Jess Carpenter said Mr Norman was "like a saint". "He's excellent with customers, he's friendly, he's efficient - you can't say anything bad about him," she said.