



SUCCESS: Frank and Kathy Seeley at Seeley International's Lonsdale factory. Picture: MARK BRAKE/AAP

GIUSEPPE TAURIELLO

SOUTH Australia's king of cool, Frank Seeley, has won another major award, recognising his family's success building one of the state's best-known manufacturing operations.

Coinciding with National

Family Business Day today, Seeley International – the country's biggest airconditioning manufacturer – has been named the distinguished family business of the year at this year's Family Business National Awards.

Mr Seeley, who established the Lonsdale-based company

in the early 1970s, said it continued to push the boundaries in innovation.

"I am delighted to accept this very special honour because it acknowledges our success in being world-class manufacturers, while still maintaining our strong family values," he said.

"Throughout our 50-plus years in business, my wonderful wife, Kathy, has never wavered in her support – even in our darkest days.

"I'm also delighted that all of our four children, Barry, Jon, Tim and Kari, have been involved in the business over the years, and that Jon is now our

group managing director." Seeley employs more than 500 people and exports to more than 120 countries.

The awards are organised each year by Family Business Australia to recognise the contribution family businesses make to the country's economy and culture.