



MEDIA RELEASE: PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND'S EXPORT AWARDS

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Leading export businesses have been announced at the Premier of Queensland's Export Awards, which were held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre last night (Thursday 19 October 2017).

Evolve Skateboards has taken out the top prize of the evening – the Premier of Queensland's Exporter of the Year Award – as well as the E-Commerce award. Evolve Skateboards is a Gold Coast-based designer, manufacturer and retailer of electric skateboards, which has grown rapidly since its launch in 2011. Their products are sold in 30 different countries around the world, through a network of distributors and locally owned international offices, and online.

Presenting the awards were the Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier of Queensland and Minister for the Arts, and the Honourable Curtis Pitt MP, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment.

Chief Executive Officer of the Export Council of Australia (ECA) Lisa McAuley said "as a leading advocate for international trade, the ECA, in conjunction with Trade & Investment Queensland, were honoured to manage this state-wide competition where nominees secure their reputation on the world stage.

Acknowledging exporters is vital in building awareness of new market opportunities available to business owners. We are seeing more and more new companies that are exporting their goods and services with excellent results and now is the time to focus on how we can help build on Queensland's trade capabilities and encourage more companies to look at the global opportunities that are opening up,"

"These awards acknowledge the significant achievements that exporters have made to improving the State's economic activity and boosting jobs."

"Queensland's businesses have the innovation, expertise and professionalism to take on international markets, and it is important that we recognise their hard work and determination to succeed."

"Whether small or large, these businesses prove that they have what it takes to succeed on an increasingly competitive world stage," Ms McAuley said.

Annually exporters make a significant contribution to the Queensland economy, with goods and services exports worth \$62.6 billion according to the latest figures from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

For more information please contact:

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2017 Premier of QLD Export Awards Winners

QLD Awards Categories:

Dermot McManus Award for Innovation: Digga Australia

Richard Joel Award for Emerging Exporter: AKIPS

Tom Burns for Women in International Business: Megan Ziem, Grace Loves Lace

Defence: TAE Aerospace

Industry Award Categories:

Agribusiness: AGT Foods Australia

Business Services: EarthCheck

Creative Industries: UAP

Digital Technologies: Opmantek Software

E-Commerce: Evolve Skateboards

Education & Training: Cairns College of English & Business

Environmental Solutions: Core Resources

Health & Biotechnology: LuinaBio

Manufacturing: Noonan Race Engineering

Minerals & Energy: Blast Movement Technologies

Regional Exporter: Dynamics G-Ex

Small Business: Tooletries

Premier of Queensland's Exporter of the Year: Evolve Skateboards