



## **Prestigious Awards Program Showcasing NSW Exporters on the Global Stage**

### **The 2018 Premier's NSW Export Awards Applications Now Open**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Tuesday 29 May 2018**

The [Export Council of Australia \(ECA\)](#), along with our principal partner the NSW Government, and our 2018 award partners, are pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2018 Premier's NSW Export Awards. The 56<sup>th</sup> annual awards were officially launched on Monday 21 May at the Sydney Start Up Hub.

The key note address at the launch was given by Mr Jonathan O'Dea, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Premier and Treasurer who discussed the value of exports to the NSW economy and noted the importance of recognising NSW exporters. "The NSW Government is determined to help more businesses reach the global markets. We want to see your business shine on the global stage." Mr O'Dea said.

At last year's awards there were a record number of companies with 82 finalists across 21 awards categories.

CEO of the ECA Alina Bain said "We were pleased to have our 2017 NSW Women in International Business winner, Jane Lu, Founder & CEO of Showpo, talk about growing a multi-million-dollar eCommerce business and winning the prestigious award. It is an inspiring story and the eCommerce opportunity is one the awards program in 2018 will explore through its regional events, with upcoming locations in Griffith and Wollongong."

"The Premier's NSW Export Awards will be entering its 56<sup>th</sup> year and as always we will be looking for innovative exporters across the state to profile and celebrate. The awards give exporters the opportunity to make their company and international business story known. The awards are also an acknowledgement of their contribution to NSW's economic future." Ms Bain added.

This year the national program will include a new category: Emerging Exporter Award, for outstanding export achievement by an enterprise in any industry sector which has been exporting goods or services for three years or less.

"The awards program looks to celebrate international business success and innovation across NSW. The ECA will be looking for diverse companies from every industry, location and size, companies both emerging and established are encouraged to apply.

The international business landscape in NSW encompasses many companies working tirelessly to compete on the global stage. NSW's exporters succeed through persistence and a recognition that Australia's industry has much value to add for international customers. The awards recognise this challenge and rewards those businesses taking it on." Ms Bain said.

The ECA calls on all New South Wales companies engaged in international business to apply for the program.

Information can be found at [www.exportaward.com.au/nsw](http://www.exportaward.com.au/nsw). Applications will officially close on 17 August 2018. The finalists will be notified in September with winners announced at a prestigious awards presentation dinner on the 24 October 2018 at The Star, Pyrmont. Winners in the National Award categories will go on to represent the State at the Australian Export Awards National Ceremony in December.

For any enquiries on entering the awards or attending the regional eCommerce events please contact Kristen Mulligan at [kristenmulligan@export.org.au](mailto:kristenmulligan@export.org.au)



#### **2018 National award categories:**

- Agribusiness
- Business Services
- Creative Industries
- Digital Technologies
- E-commerce
- Education and Training
- **Emerging Exporter \*NEW\***
- Environmental Solutions
- Health and Biotechnology
- Manufacturing
- Minerals, Energy and Related Services
- Regional Exporter
- Small Business

#### **2018 NSW state specific award categories:**

- NSW Asian Exporter
- NSW Innovation in Export
- NSW International Development
- NSW Women in International Business
- Western Sydney Exporter
- NSW Defence Industry

#### **For more information contact:**

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