



MEDIA RELEASE

DR CRAIG EMERSON

Minister for Trade

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AUSTRALIAN EXPORT AWARDS FINALISTS

The 75 finalists in this year's Australian Export Awards have been congratulated for their innovative use of new technology and energy efficient production methods.

Trade Minister Craig Emerson said today he had noted increasing emphasis on clean energy solutions to production processes, and to the demands of global competition.

"Many of the finalists have developed or adopted cutting-edge technology to improve their products and cut greenhouse emissions," Dr Emerson said.

"Their success shows how the will to embrace new ideas can help businesses gain a competitive advantage in world markets."

Now in their 49th year, the Australian Export Awards are co-presented by the Australian Trade Commission and the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Dr Emerson said seizing opportunities in overseas markets was vital to Australia's future prosperity, particularly during these challenging times for global growth.

"The Australian Export Awards celebrate the commitment and achievements of Australian companies, while also encouraging other businesses to expand into international trade," he said.

"The Government remains committed to gaining better access to overseas markets, which ensures Australian exporters have the best chance of success."

This year's finalists have together contributed \$5.6 billion in export earnings over the last year, and employed more than 10,000 people.

More than half are new to the Export Awards program.

The Australian Export Awards encompass 12 industry categories, as well as the Prime Minister's Australian Exporter of the Year Award. The winners will be announced on Thursday, December 8, 2011, at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.

For more information, including a full list of finalists visit:
www.exportawards.gov.au.

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