



**EMBARGOED until 2pm Tuesday 22 September 2009**

## **2009 ACT Export Awards recognise leading regional businesses**

**Sentinel Pty Ltd** took out the ACT's top award as the Chief Minister's Exporter of the Year at the 2009 ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards presentation ceremony held today at the Hyatt Hotel Canberra.

Sentinel Pty Ltd provides specialised services to clients in the Mining and Government sectors, including design, implementation and operation of remote environmental monitoring solutions. Sentinel also won the Small to Medium Services Award at this year's Export Awards

Director, Rod Sandison accepted the Award on behalf of Sentinel's employees. "The Sentinel team has been integral to the success of the company. The team consists of individuals with varied skill sets, who come from diverse cultural backgrounds yet, together, they maintain a strong work ethic and a dedication to excellence".

"The ACT Export Awards have rightly earned the reputation as one of the most prestigious and significant industry awards on the Territory's business calendar. This in large part due to the evident ACT Government support for the Awards themselves and, more generally, to the growing level of commitment to exporting within our small to medium businesses" Chris Faulks, CEO, Canberra Business Council said today.

"For nine years Sentinel has been exporting its products and services to some of the harshest and most security-challenged locations in the world, with clients spread across the globe from Africa to Asia Pacific and the Dominican Republic" said Chris Faulks.

The ACT's Emerging Exporter Award was given to **Windlab Systems**, a global wind energy development company. Their track record in progressing commercially viable sites is reflected in a growing portfolio spanning Canada, USA, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.

Other notable category winners include **Aspen Medical**, a provider of healthcare services to remote areas or regions of high demand and recent recipient of BWR's most Successful Private Business (under \$100 million) of the Year Award; **Lucy Media Pty Ltd**, a Canberra based media and entertainment company; **Dysol**, a world leader in the development and commercialisation of third generation photovoltaics and **CIT Solutions** who were praised for their work in recruiting over 1000 international students from over 75 countries annually.

**Recruitment Systems Pty Ltd** and **Stratsec**, both category winners at last year's ACT Export Awards continued to demonstrate strong export performance taking out the Small Business and Information & Communication Technology Awards respectively in 2009.



“Motivating competitive ACT companies to become exporters and growing an export culture in the ACT through raising awareness of export opportunities is an important factor in ensuring sustained export growth, employment and economic activity in the ACT” said Kevin Reilly, Chairperson of Canberra Business Council’s International Business Taskforce.

The 2009 ACT Chief Minister’s Export Awards category winners:

Award Category	Category Winner
Arts and Entertainment Award	Lucy Media Pty Ltd
Education and Training Award	CIT Solutions Pty Ltd
Emerging Exporter Award	Windlab Systems Pty Ltd
Information and Communication Technology Award	stratsec
Marge Services Award	Aspen Medical
Small Business Award	Recruitment Systems Pty Ltd
Small to Medium Manufacturer Award	Dyesol Limited
Small to Medium Services Award	Sentinel Pty Ltd

The winners of the 2009 ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards will automatically progress as national finalists to the 47th Australian Export Awards where one winner will receive the Prime Minister’s Exporter of the Year Award.

For more information on the ACT Chief Minister’s Export Awards please contact Brooke Anderson at [brooke.anderson@canberrabusinesscouncil.com.au](mailto:brooke.anderson@canberrabusinesscouncil.com.au) or 0400 090 452.

Canberra Business Council (CBC) is the ACT and Capital Region’s leading business organisation. CBC manages the ACT Exporters Network on behalf of the ACT Government.

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