



Tuesday, 27 April 2010

Chief Minister launches the 2010 ACT Export Awards

The ACT Chief Minister, Jon Stanhope MLA will today launch the 2010 ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards in front of an audience of ACT and Region business leaders and last year's ACT Export Award finalists.

"Last year's Export Awards Program was a tremendous success. More than 240 people attended the Presentation Lunch with the Chief Minister in September 2009 to witness a record twenty-one finalists compete for the coveted ACT Exporter of the Year Award" Chris Faulks, CEO, Canberra Business Council, said today.

The ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards are a territory program that recognises and honours exporters who have achieved sustainable export growth through innovation and commitment. Category winners progress as national finalists to the Australian Export Awards.

"Finalists from last year's ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards generated close to \$80m in export sales in the 2008/09 financial year. From Canada to Kazakhstan and Bahrain to Papua New Guinea, our finalists from last year demonstrated tremendous commitment to developing existing markets and opening up new overseas markets", Chris Faulks said.

"What Canberrans may not fully appreciate is that we have an extremely dynamic business community which has taken on the world and won. CEA Technologies President, David Gaul is proof that a small business in Canberra can grow to become a world renowned provider of high technology systems to defence forces around the world" Ms Faulks said.

"David, a former Export Awards category winner with CEA Technologies has recently been awarded the prestigious Australian Export Hero Award by the Australian Institute of Export confirming his outstanding contribution to building the Territory's position and performance in international trade over the last 30 years."

"I would encourage all exporters to use this opportunity to begin thinking about their export activities. The ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards can help local businesses increase their profile to a wide audience both nationally and internationally" said Ms Faulks.

The 2010 ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards are managed and presented by Canberra Business Council on behalf of the ACT Government. The Awards are sponsored by the Centre for Customs & Excise Studies, EFIC, Austrade, Canberra Business Council and the ACT Exporters' Network.

For more information on the 2010 ACT Chief Minister's Export Awards please contact Michael Cliff on 0400 090 452 or at michael.cliff@cliffassoc.com.au

Media Enquiries:

Chris Faulks | CEO | Canberra Business Council | 0421 994 488 | 6247 4199

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