



The Hon Barry O'Farrell MP

Premier of NSW

Minister for Western Sydney

MEDIA RELEASE

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PREMIER ANNOUNCES EXPORT AWARD WINNERS

NSW Premier Barry O'Farrell has congratulated the State's top exporters for their success in the challenging global business environment.

"The winners are great examples of innovative companies – innovation contributes to achieving success in difficult business conditions," said Mr O'Farrell at the announcement of the winners of the 2012 Premier's NSW Export Awards.

"Exporters make an important contribution to our State economy by stimulating job creation and economic prosperity. NSW merchandise and services exports were worth \$60.8 billion in 2010-11 and accounted for about 14 per cent of the gross state product.

"My Government is working hard to strengthen our international business relationships and win trade and investment deals for the State.

"We have expanded NSW's international presence this year by opening a business office in San Francisco, adding to our two offices in China, one in India and one in the United Arab Emirates.

"We understand that to drive the NSW economy forward, we need to support business and jobs, and encourage growth.

"The NSW Government is proud to support these awards which highlight our State's top exporters and their world-class goods and services.

At the awards ceremony, Mr O'Farrell presented the top award, the 2012 NSW Exporter of the Year, to RØDE Microphones.

The Silverwater company provides high quality recording microphones. With more than 20 years' experience, RØDE has become a leading manufacturer of microphones and accessories.

Distributed to 97 countries, RØDE's products are used by recording musicians, audio engineers, filmmakers, television and radio stations, houses of worship and in other applications where high-quality audio recording and sound reinforcement is required.

The past 12 months marked 10 years of consecutive sales growth for RØDE, with exports comprising 92 per cent of sales. The company has 150 staff worldwide.

The NSW Government is the principal sponsor of the export awards which are organised by the Export Council of Australia.

The winners of the national categories progress to the 50th Australian Export Awards which will be held in Canberra on 27 November.

Winners of the 2012 Premier's NSW Export Awards

2012 Premier's NSW Exporter of the Year: RØDE Microphones, Silverwater

NATIONAL CATEGORIES

Agribusiness

Winner: Atron Enterprises, Wahroonga

Arts and Entertainment

Winner: Animal Logic, Moore Park

Education and Training

Winner: Australian Institute of Professional Education, North Sydney

Emerging Exporter

Winner: Nanosonics, Alexandria

Information and Communication Technology

Winner: Nuix, Sydney

Highly commended: Integrated Research, North Sydney

Large Advanced Manufacturer

Winner: RØDE Microphones, Silverwater

Highly commended: Redback Boot, Waterloo

Small to Medium Manufacturer

Winner: Hedweld Group of Companies, Singleton

Highly commended: Creative Instore Solutions, Terrey Hills

Minerals and Energy

Winner: Xstrata Coal NSW, Singleton

Regional Exporter

Winner: SunRice, Leeton

Small Business

Winner: Ensitech, Emu Plains

Highly commended: Turbosmart, Ashfield

Large Services

Winner: Servcorp, Sydney

Small to Medium Services

Winner: LeadBolt, Bondi Junction

NSW CATEGORIES

Asian Exporter

Winner: United World Enterprises, Kingsgrove

Western Sydney Exporter

Winner: TNA Australia, Sydney Olympic Park

Highly commended: Romar Engineering, Sefton

Hunter/Central Coast Exporter

Winner: Sanitarium Health and Wellness, Berkeley Vale

Illawarra Exporter

Winner: Alminco, Fairy Meadow

Innovation in Export

Winners: OEM Technology Solutions, Artarmon; Ramsay Health Care, Greenslopes

Sustainable Exporter

Winner: Industrial Engineering Technology, Penrith

Highly commended: MI Associates, North Sydney

NSW Young Exporter

Winners: Jai Townsend (WE Smith Engineering); Sam Riley (Ansarada)

Export Scholarship

Byron Bay Cookie Company, Byron Bay

Stratatel Limited, North Sydney