

FOR RELEASE
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Australia's best innovators showcased at 30th annual AIIA National iAwards ceremony

Australia's peak industry representative body for innovation technology, the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA), is proud to announce the winners of the 2023 National iAwards. As Australia's longest running innovation recognition program, the awards reveal, recognise and reward excellence in Australian innovation.

AIIA CEO, Simon Bush, said: "We are incredibly proud to celebrate the 30th annual National iAwards this year. We saw a tremendous number of entrants, with the most submitted in the last five years and of an incredibly high calibre. This has certainly put the judges through their paces.

"Our congratulations to the winners of this year's National iAwards, who have showcased the innovative possibilities technology offers us all. All entrants deserve recognition for their hard work and brilliant ideas. We want to thank them for their continued commitment to furthering Australia's capability in innovation technology."

The annual ceremony recognising the standout innovations across the country took place on 31 August at a sold out SkyCity in Adelaide. The entry process for the 2023 iAwards followed the widely popular 2022 entry process, with entrants submitting a three-minute pitch along with their submission. They demonstrated the incredible ways that businesses, government departments, startups and not-for-profit organisations continue to change and embrace innovative digital technologies.

Mr Bush said: "It was a privilege to have the Hon Blair Boyer, South Australian Minister for Education, Training and Skills, join us for the National iAwards Ceremony. Our thanks also to the Hon Ed Husic MP, Minister for Industry and Science, who delivered a fantastic speech to our 400 attendees. The AIIA thanks both esteemed guests and the South Australian government for supporting digital technologies that help lead Australia's future. The iAwards have only grown over the last three decades, which is indicative of the exponential growth and potential of Australia's innovation and technological spaces - it's a true pleasure of the AIIA to continue supporting and showcasing our budding innovators through the iAwards."

The 2023 National iAwards are presented in seven categories to showcase the breadth of innovation and technology across multiple sectors.

The 2023 National iAwards winners by Category are:

- **Government & Public Sector Solution of the Year, sponsored by the Digital Transformation Agency** - Next Generation AI-powered Road Condition Monitoring Solution by Swinburne University
- **Student & Education Solution of the Year, sponsored by Australian Super** - Project Echo by Deakin University

- **Start-Up of the Year, sponsored by CDC** - Smart AIConnect AI Framework by SmartAIConnect
- **Business & Industry Solutions of the Year, sponsored by SRA Information Technology** - Digital Pathology System by Sullivan and Nicolaidis Pathology/UQ
- **Technology Platform Solution of the Year, sponsored by DataDriven** - Joint Action Solutions by Etiscope
- **Sustainability & Environmental solution, sponsored by WAVIA** - XIoT Health Tag for Livestock Health & Wellbeing by Xsights Digital Pty Ltd
- **Not-For-Profit/Community solution, sponsored by Accenture** - Braintrack App by Dementia Australia
- **Diversity Award, sponsored by Dell Technologies** - KJR
- **Chief Judge Innovation Award** - Vantari VR Flight Simulator for Healthcare by Vantari VR
- **Inspiration Award, sponsored by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources** - Live Streamed Incursions by Inform & Empower

Details on each of our winners can be found below.

The iAwards are supported by partner sponsor the Department of Industry, Science and Resources and category sponsors DTA, CDC, SRA Information Technology, DataDriven, WAVIA, Australian Super, Accenture, DELL Technologies, and pre-dinner drinks sponsor DXC Technologies.

The iAwards Ceremony is proudly sponsored by the Department of Trade and Investment through InvestSA.

The AIIA thanks all sponsors for their commitment to supporting the tech sector.

AIIA is a not-for-profit organisation aimed at supporting and advocating for Australia's future social and economic prosperity through technology innovation.

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AIIA's 2023 National iAwards - About the Winners

Government & Public Sector Solution of the Year - Next Generation AI-powered Road Condition Monitoring Solution by Swinburne University

This innovative solution, the first of its kind in Australia, addresses the challenge of proactive maintenance of roadside assets in local government areas (LGAs). The solution involves equipping waste collection trucks with Internet of Things (IoT) sensors and 5G connectivity to capture high-resolution video data of roadside assets, such as roadside signs, bus stop shelters, and public spaces.

Student & Education Solution of the Year - Project Echo by Deakin University

The innovation provides a solution for conservationists and researchers that uses a network of microphone sensors and artificial intelligence to monitor, track, and analyse endangered animal movements in real time. The system is non-invasive, cost-effective, and works in low light and cluttered environments, offering several advantages over traditional camera-based monitoring systems.

Start-Up of the Year - Smart AIConnect AI Framework

SmartAIConnect's AI Framework revolutionises the deployment of AI models at the edge. It simplifies the entire process, from deployment to monitoring and distribution of predictions, while ensuring security, audit trails, and governance measures.

Business & Industry Solutions of the Year - Digital Pathology System by Sullivan and Nicolaides Pathology/UQ

UQ/Sullivan and Nicolaides Pathology has developed an intelligent scanning microscope, AI analysis software, and a custom-built slide handling hotel, revolutionising traditional manual optical glass slide microscopy. The technology allows glass slides to be fully digitised at multiple magnifications, providing high-quality digital images viewed on computer screens.

Technology Platform Solution of the Year - Joint Action Solutions by Etiscope

Joint Action's innovations deliver the most accurate, easiest and cost-effective way to provide protection from manual handling injuries. Simple to use technology that engages workers in a safe work culture delivered to the top line and bottom line of any business.

Sustainability & Environmental solution - XIoT Health Tag for Livestock Health & Wellbeing by Xsights Digital Pty Ltd

The XIoT Tag is a patented tool for the agricultural industry that is an affordable and scalable solution for real-time health and welfare monitoring of livestock. It is a wafer thin, encapsulated three core silicon processor, which includes integrated sensing, security, processing and a Bluetooth transmitter that sits between an animals' ear and standard ear tag for live data collection. It is disrupting the current livestock monitoring solutions with a focus on the health and welfare of individual animals.

Not-For-Profit/Community solution - Braintrack App by Dementia Australia

BrainTrack is a free app addressing the need for timely diagnosis of dementia which has been downloaded by more than 40,000 people since being released by Dementia Australia on 13 October 2022. BrainTrack is designed for people who may have a health or lifestyle predisposition to dementia, are noticing changes in their cognitive health and anyone interested in healthy ageing.

Diversity Award - KJR

KJR's dedication and approach to improving diversity in its network has earned the win of the Diversity Award. Its multifaceted approach includes running internal leadership programs projected to enhance its already-above industry average of women in leadership, having equal pay, training and developing projects for First Nations people, and focusing on cultural and linguistic diversity within the organisation.

Inspiration Award - Live Streamed Incursions by Inform & Empower

Inform & Empower's live stream incursions utilise innovative uses of existing technologies to deliver high quality and affordable digital safety and wellbeing learning to classrooms across Australia. Their solution enables primary schools across Australia, whether they be urban, regional or remote, to have access to the identical high quality, engaging and interactive learning necessary to thrive in an online world.

Chief Judges Innovation Award - Vantari VR Flight Simulator for Healthcare by Vantari VR

Vantari's technology sets the gold standard for medical procedural training. It has been integrated into tertiary training hospitals globally and is having a significant impact on training and education delivery for doctors, nurses and students.

About AIIA

The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) is Australia's peak representative body and advocacy group for those in the digital ecosystem. Since 1978 AIIA has pursued activities to stimulate and grow the digital ecosystem, to create a favourable business environment for members and to contribute to Australia's economic prosperity. We do this by delivering outstanding member value by providing a strong voice of influence; building a sense of community through events and education; enabling a network for collaboration and inspiration; and developing compelling content and relevant and interesting information.