

FOR RELEASE
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**Outstanding QLD technology innovation showcased
at 31st annual AIIA iAwards**

Australia's peak industry representative body for innovation technology, the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA), is proud to announce the winners and merit recipients of the 2024 QLD iAwards. As Australia's longest running innovation recognition program, the awards unearth, recognise and reward excellence in Australian innovation.

At the event last evening, we were honoured to have Mr Steven Minnikin, Member for Chatsworth, Shadow Minister for Customer Service, and Shadow Minister for Transport and Main Roads, who gave a keynote address and Mr Chris McLaren, Queensland Government Chief Customer and Digital Officer, Department of Transport and Main Roads, who provided insights on the Queensland Government's digital innovation programme.

AIIA CEO, Simon Bush, said: "We are incredibly proud to celebrate the 31st annual iAwards this year. The high level of ability and passion of our tech innovators that rises in the iAwards never ceases to amaze and inspire. 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."

Mr Bush said: "The finalists and winners show the diversity of innovation occurring across the economy and how technology can solve both economic and societal issues. The exciting developments we are seeing with the adoption of Artificial Intelligence highlights the possibilities and productivity gains our economy can harness through innovative technologies. The winners and merit recipients of the 2024 iAwards continue to reflect the immense talent in Australia's ICT sector."

The 2024 QLD iAwards are presented to winners and merit recipients in five categories to showcase the breadth of innovation and technology across multiple sectors.

The 2024 QLD iAwards winners and merit recipients by category are:

- **Education & Student Category**
 - Merit recipient: MaiD - An open source app for AI Model interactions - by QIT Plus Pty Ltd.
- **Government & Public Sector, sponsored by the Digital Transformation Agency**
 - Winner: Mountain Bike Track IoT monitoring service by Sunshine Coast Council

- **Not for Profit & Community, sponsored by AustralianSuper**
 - Winner: Safe Phones Save Lives by DV Safe Phone LTD
- **Start-Up, sponsored by CDC**
 - Winner: SNAPI AI-powered IoT digital meter readers by SNAPI
 - Merit recipient: Everlast Networks - SDZT: Next-Gen Cybersecurity by Everlast Networks Pty Ltd
- **Technology Platform Solution, sponsored by Reason Group**
 - Winner: DevBricks by Lynkz

Details on each of our winners and merit recipients can be found below.

Each of the 2024 QLD iAwards winners will now compete for the coveted National iAwards title which will be announced at the Gala event in August. The AIIA iAwards are supported by the Department of Industry, Science and Resources, the South Australian Government, CDC, the Digital Transformation Agency, Lenovo, asana, Reason Group, AustralianSuper and Dell Technologies. The AIIA thanks them 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 2024 QLD iAwards - About the Winners

DevBricks by Lynkz

DevBricks serves as a user story and code generation companion tool seamlessly integrated into users' Azure DevOps instance, elevating and expediting the development of their business applications. This next-generation AI toolkit empowers users to leverage cutting-edge machine learning for fine-tuning project requirements, automating personalized code generation, and addressing prevalent industry challenges.

Everlast Networks - SDZT: Next-Gen Cybersecurity by Everlast Networks Pty Ltd

Everlast Networks offers a groundbreaking encryption solution, the 'Software Defined Zero Trust' (SDZT) technology. Unlike traditional VPNs, SDZT creates heavily encrypted, single-use connections entirely in-memory, eliminating the need for costly infrastructure.

MaiD - An open source app for AI Model interactions - by QIT Plus Pty Ltd

MaiD is a cross platform free and open source application interfacing with Llama CPP models locally and with an Ollama, Mistral and Google Gemini and OpenAI models remotely.

Mountain Bike Track IoT monitoring service by Sunshine Coast Council

This IoT monitoring service focuses on understanding the use and management of the Sugar Bag Rd Mountain Bike Track, a popular riding location for locals and visitors. Increasing visitor numbers have significantly impacted wear and tear of the bike tracks, including track erosion due to heavy rainfall. Council is using real-time and historical data insights that identify areas of high use that may require priority maintenance, and monitor environmental impacts.

Safe Phones Save Lives by DV Safe Phone LTD

In Australia, an alarming 2.2 million individuals are affected by domestic violence, with one in four women facing violence from an intimate partner or family member. Abusers commonly use isolation tactics, including controlling or destroying victims' mobile phones, to cut off their access to support. Launched in response, DV Safe Phone aims to counter this by providing victims with mobile phones, a crucial lifeline to the outside world. DV Safe Phone's mission is to raise awareness, secure ongoing phone donations and funding, and educate on safe technology use, emphasising the importance of not linking new devices to existing accounts that could alert perpetrators.

SNAPI AI-powered IoT digital metre readers by SNAPI

The SNAPI AI-powered digital metre reader transforms "dumb" analogue utility metres that dominate the World's energy networks into smart devices in just seconds. It does this by sticking onto any water, gas, or electricity analogue metre to remotely read consumption data with 99.9% accuracy. By efficiently capturing this data at higher-frequencies, SNAPI satisfies a time-critical, global demand for more energy and water consumption data, analysis, and action.