

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Outstanding VIC 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 VIC iAwards. As Australia's longest running innovation recognition program, the awards unearth, recognise and reward excellence in Australian innovation.

The quality of entrants in Victoria was very high with innovations being recognised that included cutting edge applications of both quantum and artificial intelligence to solve both business and societal problems.

The AIIA was pleased to host the Hon Gabrielle Williams MP, Minister for Government Services at the Victorian State iAwards Ceremony held in Melbourne. She spoke about how she wants to work collaboratively with the AIIA and the technology industry to drive improved outcomes and digital adoption for the benefit of citizens and public servants.

Ms Danni Jarrett , CEO at Invest Vic and Global Vic also presented to the finalists on how her organisation can support and foster innovative tech companies to grow and expand internationally out of Victoria.

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 up 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 Australian Information Industry Association is a proud DIF partner and the VIC iAwards Ceremony is a feature event of the Victorian digital innovation ecosystem.

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

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

- **Business & Industry, sponsored by asana**
 - Winner: Sprightly by Sprightly Transport Solutions Pty Ltd

- **Student & Education**
 - Winner: Careers Studio by watsonx by Deakin University and IBM

- **Government & Public Sector, sponsored by the Digital Transformation Agency**
 - Winner: Quantum computing error mitigation by CSIRO
 - Merit recipient: Improving road safety with Connected Vehicle data by GHD, Dept Transport & Planning (Vic), & Compass IoT

- **Not-for-Profit & Community, sponsored by AustralianSuper**
 - Winner: Aus CVD Risk Calculator by National Heart Foundation of Australia
 - Merit recipient: Program Wominjeka (Welcome) by Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Org
 - Merit recipient: Uniting's GPT4-based chatbot: Franklin by Uniting Vic.Tas

- **Start-Up, sponsored by CDC**
 - Winner: Gracernote by Gracernote Pty Ltd
 - Merit recipient: Stoktake by Stoktake

- **Sustainability & Environmental, sponsored by Lenovo**
 - Winner: StreamwiseD.I. by Streamwise D.I. Pty Ltd
 - Merit recipient: AGL Electrify Now by AGL / Trideca (formerly Appscore)

- **Technology Platform, sponsored by Reason Group**
 - Winner: Quantum Shield for Artificial Intelligence Systems by CSIRO
 - Merit recipient: OptimShare (Sensitive Data Sharing with Usability) by CSIRO's Data61 and Cyber Security CRC (CSCRC)

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

Each of the 2024 VIC 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.

Media

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AIIA's 2024 VIC iAwards - About the Winners

AGL Electrify Now by AGL / Trideca (formerly Appscore)

Electrify Now is an innovative platform that combines a newly introduced regulatory scheme (Consumer Data Rights), a complex calculation engine and a user's specific energy goals, to provide specific recommendations on practical steps users can take to better manage their energy needs. Electrify Now is available free of charge to AGL customers and non-customers, with a goal of supporting decarbonisation efforts across the Australian economy.

Aus CVD Risk Calculator by National Heart Foundation of Australia

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in Australia, responsible for over 18,000 deaths each year. The Aus CVD Risk Calculator has been uniquely modified and recalibrated for the Australian population and will enable a more accurate assessment of cardiovascular disease risk, so that treatment can be directed to those who will benefit most.

Careers Studio by watsonx by Deakin University and IBM

Careers Studio revolutionises education by offering a personalised learning platform powered by IBM Watsonx technology. The innovative approach bridges the gap between academia and industry, preparing students for the workforce of the future. Careers Studio, in partnership with IBM, aims to skill 30 million people globally by 2030, closing the skills gap and shaping a more prosperous future.

Gracenote by Gracenote Pty Ltd

Gracenote's mission is to change compliance forever by using AI to deliver real-time insights on compliance threats and opportunities tailored to the needs of each company. They maintain continuous monitoring of all regulatory change, together with genAI methods of extracting, processing, searching and engaging with compliance requirements. Their goal is to use technology to ensure that every single meaningful compliance requirement is managed for every business, anywhere in the world.

Improving road safety with Connected Vehicle data by GHD, Dept Transport & Planning (Vic), & Compass IoT

Victoria's Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) and GHD collaborated to evaluate the effectiveness of the Safer Roads Program – IP26 Safe Travel in Local Streets (STiLS). The complexity of this undertaking inspired an entirely new approach to road safety evaluation: leveraging the emerging availability of Connected Vehicle Data from Compass IoT to measure the impact of treatments on the local roads of Corio-Norlane and South Geelong in regional Victoria. This solution can make roads in Australia and worldwide safer for all — until the number of road injuries and fatalities reaches zero.

OptimShare (Sensitive Data Sharing with Usability) by CSIRO's Data61 and Cyber Security CRC (CSCRC)

OptimShare is a patent-pending cutting-edge solution that facilitates privacy-preserving data sharing between government and private sectors, enhancing service delivery and quality of life in Australia.

OptimShare uniquely replaces sensitive information in data with closely related, non-identifiable alternatives, ensuring the utility of the data remains intact while protecting privacy. OptimShare fosters economic growth without compromising user privacy and not only promotes operational efficiency and economic growth but also forecasts substantial net benefits of \$264.0 million over ten years.

Program Wominjeka (Welcome) by Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Org

The Wominjeka ecosystem is a recognition that no one system can do it all. Through a thoughtful and strategic combination of solutions, keeping people at its centre, Wominjeka delivers qualitative and quantitative improvements for clients, workers, and organisations. This innovation forges a future where technology narrows the gap between traditional wisdom and mainstream healthcare, ensuring an efficient, culturally respectful, and connected approach to community wellbeing.

Quantum computing error mitigation by CSIRO

Spin-Error Mitigation for Optimisation (SEMO) is a patent-pending quantum computing error mitigation invention developed by CSIRO to address the qubit noise for solving combinatorial optimisation problems with quantum/simulated annealers. SEMO has shown significant advancements in quantum annealing efficiency, notably reducing the time required to achieve true-optimal solutions. Ongoing efforts will focus on commercialisation and academic collaborations to further enhance SEMO's capabilities in quantum annealing and quantum-inspired annealing technologies.

Quantum Shield for Artificial Intelligence Systems by CSIRO

Quantum Shield for Artificial Intelligence is an entirely new technology which has no existing counterpart. It is a paradigm shift from the existing classical artificial intelligence systems to highly innovative and emerging quantum artificial intelligence systems. The technology is poised to enable revolutionary new quantum AI-based applications offering supreme security, meeting a critical need across diverse user groups including military, Defence, healthcare, and transport.

Sprightly by Sprightly Transport Solutions Pty Ltd

Sprightly is a cutting edge hybrid technology solution for public route buses, merging multiple standalone IT system capabilities into one that is single black box, single antenna and single SIM. Sprightly is doing far more with far less, setting a new standard for efficiency; creating better solutions to long term problems such as passenger accessibility and safety, and driver stress and retention.

Stoktake by Stoktake

Stoktake is an Australian innovation that introduces a pioneering AI-powered facial recognition platform for livestock, setting new industry standards in assurance, traceability, and verification. This solution addresses critical challenges in livestock management by providing a secure, accurate, and non-intrusive identification method that significantly reduces theft and fraud risks. Stoktake not only optimises supply chain efficiencies but also enhances the safety and transparency of the livestock

industry, contributing to improved food safety and animal welfare and enabling a plethora of automations in the industry.

StreamwiseD.I. by Streamwise D.I. Pty Ltd

StreamwiseD.I. is an innovative and disruptive Digital/Cloud Based product solution within the WasteWater Treatment space. Through the ease of use Portal and App, real time condition monitoring and alarm thresholds, plant operators are given full visibility of their Wastewater Treatment. The use of secure Generative AI, provided as part of the report metrics, further enables Plant Operators to not only understand their operation in great detail, but also have the ability to compare this to external industry trends for their particular operation/ process.

Uniting's GPT4-based chatbot: Franklin by Uniting Vic.Tas

Franklin is a large Language Model (LLM) AI application developed in-house at Uniting. It is a natural language AI chatbot that allows Uniting staff and volunteers to formulate complex questions to make sense of more than 1380+ complex documents that involve, policy, procedures, work instructions, templates, and forms. It is fast; it is multilingual and can answer and respond in more than 80+ languages; it can personalise and adapt its responses over the course of the discourse; it understands abbreviations; it can convincingly summarise text and is human-like in its interaction.