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NSW Innovation Leaders Recognised at 2026 NSW iAwards

Australia's peak industry representative body for those in the digital ecosystem, the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA), is proud to announce the winners and merit recipients of the 2026 NSW iAwards. As Australia's longest-running innovation recognition program, the iAwards uncover, recognise and reward excellence in Australian innovation.

AIIA CEO, Elizabeth Whitelock said "we are proud to celebrate the outstanding innovation emerging from New South Wales. This year's winners show how technologies including artificial intelligence, advanced engineering and inclusive digital platforms are being applied to deliver meaningful outcomes for communities, industries and future generations."

"From AI governance and care coordination to sustainable agriculture and next-generation signal processing, these projects highlight how digital tools can strengthen safety, equity and sustainability. The NSW tech sector continues to lead with creativity, purpose and impact."

The 2026 NSW iAwards winners and merit recipients were recognised across multiple categories, reflecting the breadth of innovation occurring across the economy.

The 2026 NSW iAwards winners and merit recipients by category:

- Artificial Intelligence Technology, sponsored by the National AI Centre:
 - Winner: KomplyAi V2 by KomplyAi
- Business & Industry, sponsored by Optus:
 - Winner: Schedtris by Gadali
 - Merit Recipient: DoxAI – AI Driven Workflow Automation Solutions by DoxAI Australia Pty Ltd
- Diversity, sponsored by Dell Technologies:
 - Winner: The Halion Loop™ by Loop Hydrometallurgy
- Government & Public Sector, sponsored by the Digital Transformation Agency:
 - Winner: SMODS by Connectivity Innovation Network
 - Merit Recipient: Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP) Mobile App for Drivers by Department of Education Assisted School Travel Program (ASTP)
 - Merit Recipient: NSW EduChat by NSW Department of Education

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- Industrial Technology, sponsored by Datacom:
 - Winner: elecConnect by Elecbrakes Pty Ltd
- Not-for-Profit & Community, sponsored by DataDriven:
 - Winner: CareOrbit: Care Coordination for NDIS Families by CareOrbit: Care Coordination for NDIS Families
 - Merit Recipient: EchoNAV AI by Generation Matrix Pty Ltd
- Start-Up, sponsored by CDC Data Centres:
 - Winner: Understanding Zoe by Understanding Zoe Pty Ltd
- Student, sponsored by Deloitte:
 - Winner: Loupe by Hornsby Girls High School
- Sustainability & Environmental, sponsored by Lenovo:
 - Winner: The Halion Loop™ – Copper Made Green by Loop Hydrometallurgy
 - Merit Recipient: Modular Algae-Bacteria Wastewater Treatment System by ALBON
- Technology Platform, sponsored by Reason Group:
 - Winner: WaveMorph: Shifting the Paradigm in Analog Signal Processing by University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
 - Merit Recipient: Sustainable Soil Sensing Solution for Precision Agriculture by University of Technology Sydney (UTS)
 - Merit Recipient: Genetic Screening Platform (GSP) by UNSW

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

Each of the 2026 NSW iAwards winners will now compete for the coveted National iAwards title, which will be announced at the National iAwards Gala Dinner on 27 August. The AIIA iAwards are supported by the NSW Department of Customer Service, CDC Data Centres, the Digital Transformation Agency, Lenovo, Deloitte, Dell Technologies, Optus, DataDriven, Reason Group, the National AI Centre, Datacom and KPMG. The AIIA thanks them for their commitment to supporting the tech sector. The 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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For further information, please contact:

Media

David Makaryan

Advisor, Policy and Media

E: david@aiaa.com.au

aiaa.com.au

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AIIA's 2026 NSW iAwards - About the Winners

Schedtris

Schedtris is an agentic decision-support solution that is transforming last-minute scheduling in aged and home care. By reasoning over live operational data and codifying frontline judgement, it enables faster, more consistent rescheduling in the highest-pressure moments. This improves continuity of care, workforce stability and operational resilience at scale.

KomplyAi V2

KomplyAi V2 is an Australian AI governance platform for regulated industries, built on a hybrid deterministic-AI architecture, a unified knowledge graph, and real-time monitoring. Developed through multi-year R&D with enterprise, big tech, universities and government partners, it enables confident, compliant and controlled AI deployment.

The Halion Loop™

Loop Hydrometallurgy's STEM team is currently 80% staffed by women, including women with carer's responsibilities in our most senior engineer roles; women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds; and women living with significant disability. We seek to embody the philosophy of 'think global, act local'

SMODS

SMODS enables organisations to share sensitive multimedia in real time without surrendering control of the source data. Combining decentralised architecture, contextual access control and AI-assisted privacy protection, it helps public-sector agencies collaborate faster, govern data more safely and respond more effectively in high-stakes situations.

elecConnect

elecConnect is a world-first trailer adaptor that replaces traditional wiring looms with a flexible printed circuit board in a sealed, over-moulded design. Built for automation and durability, it transforms manufacturing efficiency and delivers a safer, more reliable, and scalable towing connection.

CareOrbit: Care Coordination for NDIS Families

CareOrbit is the first care coordination platform built for NDIS families. It gives the Chief Care Officer - the family member who manages care - one shared space to plan their care week, keep their whole team aligned, track their NDIS budget, and build care knowledge that holds together.

Understanding Zoe

Understanding Zoe is the first AI-powered neuroaffirmative platform that transforms clinical reports, daily observations, and care team input into personalised, strengths-based guidance for neurodivergent individuals and the families, educators, and professionals who support them. Our AI Pip and Care Village connect the entire support ecosystem in one secure, evolving hub.

Loupe

Loupe is an app that gamifies learning digital literacy for kids and teens. Users learn to spot logical fallacies, hidden ads, and manipulative content in their feeds through games.

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AI generates fresh practice content and scores user performance, turning the most urgent skill of this generation into a daily habit.

The Halion Loop™ – Copper Made Green

The Halion Loop™ is a revolutionary technology: significantly cheaper, cleaner and more versatile than existing technologies. Our vision is for an industry transformed: millions of tonnes of transport saved every year, gigawatts of power, kilo-tonnes of carbon, and a new industry cost curve for 'Copper Made Green'.

WaveMorph: Shifting the Paradigm in Analog Signal Processing

WaveMorph is a programmable microwave-integrated circuit that performs complex matrix computations natively at the speed of light. By replacing power-hungry digital processors with reconfigurable analog wave manipulation, it reduces power consumption by 1,000x. This universal platform enables ultra-low-latency, energy-efficient signal processing for next-generation 6G, radar, and satellite systems.