

Media release

Supply Nation announces new CEO

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Following an extensive recruitment process, the Board is delighted to announce the appointment of **Ms Jodie Taylor**, as Supply Nation's new Chief Executive Officer. Jodie will commence her duties as CEO on Monday 25 July 2022.

Supply Nation Co-Chair Michael McLeod, said:

"The selection committee and Board of Supply Nation unanimously support the appointment of Jodie as the CEO of Supply Nation. My Co-Chair Scott Wharton and the Supply Nation Board look forward to working closely with Jodie as she drives the organisation forward and continues with the transformational growth of Supply Nation that we have seen over the last seven years under the leadership of Laura Berry.

Jodie's decades of experience in customer service, leadership and stakeholder management and her clear dedication to the ongoing success of Supply Nation set her in good stead. Her communication, media and marketing skills, together with her strategic understanding of the business and its future direction, gives her a strong foundation to build upon and we are thrilled with her elevation into the role".

Jodie is a former ABC journalist and seasoned senior executive across government and the corporate sector, with 20 years' experience in reputation and crisis management, stakeholder engagement, corporate affairs, business improvement and cultural transformation. Jodie joined Supply Nation in March 2020 after running her own consulting business, and over the last two and a half years, has transformed Supply Nation's approach to corporate affairs, media relations, brand management and events.

Jodie, a descendent of the Warramunga people in the Northern Territory, has been involved in driving Indigenous education and engagement initiatives throughout her career, and said she was honoured to be taking the reins from Laura Berry and was looking forward to exploring diverse opportunities to foster global growth for the Indigenous business sector.

"I feel incredibly privileged to step into the CEO role, taking the reins from someone I admire enormously, and I'm honoured the Board has entrusted me with the opportunity to lead Supply Nation into this new era. We have seen continual growth in both the corporate and government membership of Supply Nation, and the number of Indigenous businesses. I'm very much looking forward to building on this growth as we transition into a new business environment following the COVID-19 pandemic

and working with our stakeholders to drive our vision of a prosperous, vibrant and sustainable Indigenous business sector”, Ms Taylor said.

Laura Berry will step down from the role after seven years, leading Supply Nation through tremendous growth from 350 to more than 3,567 Indigenous suppliers and 120 to 636 members across corporate, government and the not-for-profit sectors.

Ms Berry said, “Jodie has a firm foundation in the business, understanding the needs of Supply Nation’s stakeholders, the incredible Supply Nation team and our partners. I am thrilled she has been promoted to the role of CEO and look forward to supporting her through the handover and transition over the coming weeks. It has been truly an honour to serve the Indigenous business community as CEO of Supply Nation over the past seven years. I step down from the role with full confidence that we will continue to see Supply Nation and the sector continue to go from strength to strength”.

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About Supply Nation

Supply Nation is Australia’s leading supplier diversity organisation. Since 2009, Supply Nation has worked with Indigenous businesses and procurement teams from government and corporate Australia to help shape today’s emerging and rapidly evolving Indigenous business sector. Supply Nation’s world-leading verification process provides peace of mind by ensuring that all businesses listed on Indigenous Business Direct are not only Indigenous owned but are regularly audited for changes in company structure. Supply Nation’s support, combined with a range of business tools, helps our members develop their supplier diversity practices, and build a strong, successful and sustainable Indigenous business sector. To find out more, visit: supplynation.org.au