

Media release

Theme announced and tickets launched for Australia's leading supplier diversity event – Connect 2023

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| Date of release | 21 April 2023 |
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Tickets are now on sale for Supply Nation's annual flagship event for the Indigenous business sector, **Connect**.

Taking place on Gadigal Country (ICC Sydney) on **Tuesday 8 August 2023**, Connect brings together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses, corporate organisations and government departments to foster new business opportunities and celebrate the success of the sector.

The one-day event will connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses with motivated buyers at the **Indigenous Business Tradeshow** and will celebrate the **Supplier Diversity Awards** finalists and winners at the **Gala Awards Dinner**.

Last year's event saw a record attendance, with more than 1,800 attendees through the Tradeshow doors and over 1,300 guests at the Gala Awards Dinner.

The theme for this year's event is **Empowering Indigenous Futures**. Supply Nation's CEO, Michelle Deshong said the theme acknowledges the significant political, social and economic changes that have led to greater outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

"We recognise the influential First Nations leaders who have been at the forefront of historic changes – paving the way for new generations and creating a prosperous future for Indigenous Australians."

Supply Nation was proud to collaborate with Certified Indigenous business, **Impact Digi**, on the development of the official Connect 2023 artwork. Founded in 2013 by Yawuru woman Tamara Bin Amat, Impact Digi is a multi-award-winning creative agency based in Western Australia that offers a complete range of design, communications and marketing services.

Ms Deshong said, "the Connect 2023 artwork signifies this year's theme and the generational changes that have created greater social and economic pathways for the First Nations peoples of Australia'.

The artwork features Impact Digi's branding team and Supply Nation's Graphic Designer Tarran Marr-Harris, a proud Birrbay, Warrimay and Dhangati man.

To find out more about Connect 2023 and to purchase tickets, visit: connect.supplynation.org.au

Connect 2023 sponsors

| Sponsorship type | Sponsor |
|---|------------------|
| Award Sponsor – Certified Supplier of the Year | Telstra |
| Award Sponsor – Procurement Professional of the Year | Killara Services |
| Award Sponsor – Supplier Diversity Advocate of the Year | AusIndustry |
| Award Sponsor – Partnership of the Year | ANZ |
| Award Sponsor – Registered Supplier of the Year | BP |
| Award Sponsor – Indigenous Businesswoman of the Year | Westpac |
| Award Sponsor – Young Entrepreneur of the Year | EY |
| Award Sponsor – Outstanding Impact Award | Wesfarmers |

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