



Media Release

Supply Nation's Supplier Diversity Awards 2024 Finalists Announced

Date of release 21 May 2024

Supply Nation is pleased to announce the finalists in the annual Supplier Diversity Awards.

The Awards honour and recognise businesses, government agencies, not-for-profit organisations and individuals making a significant contribution to supplier diversity, and excellence in driving a prosperous and vibrant Indigenous business sector.

Winners in each of the eleven categories will be announced at the Gala Awards Dinner on Thursday 29 August, as part of Connect 2024, the leading national event connecting Certified Indigenous Suppliers with corporate and government buyers of products and services.

Now in its fifteenth year, Connect will for the first time be held in Meanjin on the lands of the Turrbal and Jagera peoples at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on Wednesday 28 August and Thursday 29 August 2024.

Supply Nation's Chief Executive Officer, Kate Russell said Connect is the largest annual gathering of First Nations businesses in Australia.

"The Supplier Diversity Awards are a way to support and recognise excellence amongst businesses that are committed to diversified procurement policies and the benefits of working with Indigenous businesses," said Ms Russell.

"Importantly, it's also about honouring our First Nations businesses and entrepreneurs that are making a real difference to their communities, local employment, and the Australian economy," she said.

Over 2,000 participants are expected to attend the Connect 2024 Knowledge Forum, Indigenous Business Tradeshow and Gala Awards Dinner.

Each awards category is sponsored by a Supply Nation member or supplier, with the Dr Dean Jarrett Award recognising Outstanding Impact honouring an organisation or individual for significant and long-lasting contributions to the sector.

"In this year, following the Referendum, it's important for non-Indigenous and Indigenous businesses to come together, and now more than ever, look to collaborate, look to innovate, look to contract, and create ventures that generate real action, positive impact and lasting change," Ms Russell said.

"Connect 2024 aims to do just that – bring businesses and people together to develop stronger economic and commercial relationships, and the knowledge by which to succeed," she said.

Award Category and Sponsor	Finalists
Certified Supplier of the Year Telstra	Barpa Construction Services Corporate Culcha Killara Services
Supplier Diversity Advocate of the Year AusIndustry	Amanda Inman – Laing O’Rourke Jenni Walke – Elephant in the Room Consulting Simon Nash – ANZ Banking Group
Corporate Member of the Year Ethan Indigenous	Boeing Defence Australia Fulton Hogan Laing O’Rourke
Indigenous Businesswoman of the Year Westpac	Ashley Carroll – Alkira Fuel Carol Vale – Murawin Dr Karen Demmery – Burbirra
Registered Supplier of the Year BP	Cedrent Enterprises Goanna Academy Printing with Purpose
Procurement Professional of the Year Killara Services	Ben Leslie – Lendlease Ramon Dobb – Fulton Hogan Ryan Sims – Laing O’Rourke
Government Member of the Year Laing O’Rourke	Airservices Australia The University of Sydney Transport for NSW
Sam Tjengala Reuben Award recognising Young Entrepreneur of the Year EY	Jacob Gabriel – First Transport Jasmine Newman – Killara Services Tyson Hubbard – Allpro Plumbing Solutions
Indigenous Exporter of the Year Austrade	Elephant in the Room Consulting LassWho Munda Wines
Supplier Diversity Partnership of the Year ANZ	Assetlink Indigenous Services (AIS) and Cushman & Wakefield Brindabella Resources and Fortescue Kooya Fleet Solutions and Telstra
Dr Dean Jarrett Award recognising Outstanding Impact UGL	Winner to be selected from finalists across all award categories.

About Supply Nation:

Supply Nation is Australia’s leading supplier diversity organisation. Since 2009, Supply Nation has worked with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses and procurement teams from government and corporate Australia to help shape today’s emerging and rapidly evolving Indigenous business sector. Supply Nation’s robust 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.

In the year 2022 / 2023, Supply Nation enabled over \$4.1 billion to the Indigenous economy. To find out more, visit: supplynation.org.au

About Connect:

Connect is Supply Nation’s annual flagship event for the Indigenous business sector. The event brings together Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses, corporate and government organisations to foster strategic opportunities and celebrate the success of the sector.

Connect 2024 will take place on Wednesday 28 August and Thursday 29 August 2024 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on the lands of the Turrbal and Jagera peoples in Meanjin. Find our more and purchase tickets: [Supply Nation Connect 2024](#)

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