

Wednesday, 4 December 2019

### **NSW BUSINESSES SHINE AT NATIONAL EXPORT AWARDS**

NSW's world-class exporters have been celebrated for their outstanding contribution to the nation at the 57<sup>th</sup> Australian Export Awards in Canberra last night (Tuesday, 3 December 2019).

Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, Industry and Trade John Barilaro congratulated all the NSW winners.

"We applaud the commitment and tenacity of NSW exporters. They have opened doors across the globe, not only for their own goods and services, but for NSW and Australian businesses," Mr Barilaro said.

"Our export champions have come from all walks of life. They all have one thing in common: a burning ambition to succeed backed up by innovative ideas. The success of these exporters helps create jobs in NSW and further strengthens our economy."

The 2019 winners for NSW include Koala, the socially aware mattress brand which won the Emerging Exporter Award; Essence Group, the leading manufacturer of infant nutrition products, dietary supplements and listed medicines, which took out the Agribusiness, Food and Beverage Award; Modibodi, the high-tech apparel brand, which claimed the sustainability award; and Microbiogen, a company transforming the global ethanol industry, which took home the Minerals, Energy and Related Services Award.

"Essence Group, based in Nowra are a great regional NSW success story," Mr Barilaro said.

"This highly regarded manufacturer has been expanding its footprint and exporting globally for over a decade and aims to further grow through international and local partnerships, collaborations and acquisitions.

"It's an outstanding achievement by Koala to become Australia's most successful online retailer and the highest-rated mattress brand – one that is now making headway in Asia by exporting their designs to Japan."

"I hope these success stories can inspire other businesses in the State to embark on a new trade journey as exporters."

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