

Media Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Australian Industry & Defence Network (Victoria) celebrates Special Awards

The Australian Industry & Defence Network (Victoria) (AIDN-Vic) celebrated members support over the last 15+ years, along with the annual awards, with industry and government on Tuesday night at their Special Awards dinner.

AIDN-Vic proudly recognised the achievements of Victorian individuals by presenting two annual awards along with 122 member support awards;

1. **2012 Young Achiever Award went to Jessica White from MEMKO**, along with finalists Paul Trigg, formerly with LMATS, and Lachlan Teague, Thales, recognising their outstanding individual contributions to Defence and Industry as young ambassadors. Jessica will now be judged with her interstate winners for the AIDN National Young Achiever Award.
2. **2012 Terry Kelly Award was presented to Peter Haddad, Strategic Adviser Defence Industries, Defence Industry Unit, Department of Business and Innovation**, recognising his long standing support for Victorian defence industry SMEs.
3. Finally, AIDN-Vic recognised 15 member companies for their support for over 15 years with a commemorative plaque. It was noted that this was an outstanding achievement for an industry led association.
Those member companies who have provided 10 years of support were also recognised with a plaque.

For more information on AIDN-Vic, visit <http://www.aidn.org.au/State-Groups/VIC/>

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Notes for the Editor

The AIDN-Vic awards recognise outstanding individual, corporate or government initiatives to help Australian small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) win contracts for defence related products or services.

The 8th Young Achiever Award was presented by Air Vice Marshal Chris Spence AO (Retired) a board member of Aerospace Australia Limited. This prestigious award recognises the outstanding individual contributions to Victoria's Defence and Industry.

The 10th annual Terry Kelly Award was presented by Graham Biesse, founding President of AIDN-Vic. This award recognises the long standing contributions made by individuals to the defence sector in Victoria.

Over 250 Victorian defence and aerospace SMEs are members of AIDN-Vic, which was originally established with support from the State Government, to promote its members capabilities around the world.

Photos of the event are attached and more images are available by emailing Sue Smith, sue.smith@aidnvic.org.au Phone: 03.98869278 (caption YAA LtoR Lachlan Teague, Paul Trigg & Jessica White).