



New South Wales Government

The Hon Steve Whan MP  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Small Business

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## MINISTER WHAN CONGRATULATES EXPORT AWARD FINALISTS

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The NSW Minister for Small Business Steve Whan congratulated the finalists of the 2009 Premier's Exporter of the Year Awards at a function in Sydney last night.

"These business finalists all share a determination and passion to succeed in their international activities," Minister Whan said.

"It is gratifying to see exporting companies from New South Wales doing so well in the current global economic slowdown.

"Over the past year there have been many challenges for NSW companies.

"The companies selected as finalists highlight the importance of sustaining international activities," he said.

Minister Whan said small business is the engine room of the State economy.

"And our exporters make a strong contribution to the generation of jobs," he said.

He said the finalists came from all industry sectors ranging from agribusiness to manufacturing, mining services to software development, financial services, production companies, legal services and education providers.

He said the winners of the State export awards would be announced on 28 October.

"I look forward to seeing New South Wales strongly represented among the winners of the Australian Export Awards in November," he said.

Minister Whan said the New South Wales Government is a strong supporter of exporting.

"Our trade promotion program helps companies participate in market visits and trade missions to tap into emerging markets such as China and India.

"Exporting is a particular focus of this year's Small Business September with more than 20 events planned on export skills development and key emerging markets such as China, India, Hong Kong, the Middle East, Singapore, New Zealand and the United Kingdom.

"Small Business September is proudly supported by Platinum sponsors Australia Post, NRMA Business Insurance, Sensis (Yellow Pages), Gold sponsors Austrade, and the City of Sydney, and Silver sponsors the NSW Business Chamber, Cisco and EFIC," he said.

Further information on the 2009 Small Business September events program is available at [www.smallbusinessmonth.nsw.gov.au](http://www.smallbusinessmonth.nsw.gov.au). Information on the NSW Government's trade promotion program is available at [www.exports.nsw.gov.au](http://www.exports.nsw.gov.au)