

21ST
YEAR

2023 Victorian
Manufacturing
Hall of Fame

Awards

Gala Event
Souvenir Booklet

**MADE IN
VICTORIA**



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Welcome to the 2023 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame Awards.



Ben Carroll

The Hon. Ben Carroll MP

Minister for Industry and Innovation

Minister for Manufacturing Sovereignty

Message from The Minister

Celebrating 21 years, the awards bring the manufacturing industry together to honour the people and businesses driving its growth and success.

Victoria is the nation's manufacturing heartland. We're home to more than 24,000 manufacturing businesses and our 257,000-strong workforce is the largest in the country – contributing more than 30 per cent of the national manufacturing output.

Manufacturing has a long tradition in Victoria and is now entering a new era to become more advanced, innovative and productive.

Our Made in Victoria 2030: Manufacturing Statement sets out a roadmap for this transformation, with a focus on zero and low emissions, renewable energy, defence, aerospace and space, health technologies, digital and advanced technologies, and food manufacturing.

We're well equipped to take advantage of new opportunities thanks to our highly skilled workforce, connected supply chains, leading innovation precincts and outstanding research and development infrastructure.

Victorian manufacturers have world-class capabilities that are recognised internationally, creating export opportunities in global markets.

The Victorian Government continues to back our advanced manufacturing industry through a range of initiatives including the \$20 million Manufacturing and Industry Sovereignty Fund, the \$2 billion Breakthrough Victoria Fund and the \$15 million Made in Victoria – Industry R&D Infrastructure Fund.

We're creating more secure local jobs, future-proofing our economy and ensuring that we maintain and build our state's sovereign manufacturing capability.

The sector has an exciting future, thanks to the people and companies who are driving its success.

Congratulations to all of tonight's finalists and winners.

Previous Recipients

Honour Roll

Alistair Murray (2008)

Andrew Stobart (2007)

Bill & Jim Sutton (2010)

Bob Herbert (2004)

Bruce A. Griffiths (2003)

Bruce Parker (2009)

Carl Bizon (2015)

Darryl Page (2011)

David & Tony Ellul (2018)

Dr Erol Harvey (2012)

Dr Graeme Blackman (2005)

Dr Walter Uhlenbruch AO (2002)

David Burton (2007)

David Haymes (2006)

Douglas Maxwell (2008)

Ernest Frederick Dawes OBE (2004)

Geoffrey Bell (2019)

George Gatehouse (2006)

Gerry Ryan OAM (2011)

Ivan D James (2003)

Ken Grenda AM (2012)

Lee Kidman (2007)

Pat McCluskey (2022)

Patrick Boland (2022)

Peter Carthew AM (2008)

Peter Thomas AM (2006)

Philip Leslie (2017)

Ralph Wilson Snr (2014)

Richard Pratt AC (2004)

Ross McCann (2010)

Robert Wilson (2013)

Stuart Payne (2016)

Tony Carolan (2002)

Tom Hartley (2014)

Tony Schiavello (2005)

Young Manufacturer of the Year

Agnel D'Sousa (2011)

Anna Reid (2015)

Anne Koopmann (2017)

Benjamin Cheng (2022)

David Fitzpatrick (2009)

Dr Ashley Denmead (2016)

Dr Peter Campbell (2007)

Heidi Edmiston (2005)

James Dickey (2010)

Jason Oliver (2011)

Luke Dwyer (2008)

Matthew Arblaster (2014)

Matt Nettleton (2012)

Nicholas Orchowksi (2019)

Prue Morgan (2006)

Stephen Murtagh (2013)

Scott Grinter (2004)

Vanessa Katsanevakis (2018)

Woman Manufacturer of the Year

Andrea Del Ciotto (2022)

Jill Walsh (2018)

Rochelle Avinu (2019)

Vanessa Kearney (2018)

Manufacturer of the Year

Small Business

Amaero Additive Manufacturing (2022)

Australian Precision Technologies (2014)

Coating and Industrial Technologies (2012)

Columbia Australia (2019)

H&H Machine Tools Australia (2016)

Integra Systems (2013)

Osteon Medical (2018)

Paarhammer (2017)

Thermofilm Australia (2014)

Medium Business

A.W. Bell (2013)

Care Essentials (2022)

Creature Technology Co. (2018)

Future Fibre Technologies (2014)

GP Graders (2015)

Koko Black (2012)

Major Furnace Australia (2017)

Safetech (2019)

Thycon (2016)

Large Business

Bosch Australia (2018)

CSL Behring (2016)

Dulux Australia (2019)

Hickory Building Systems (2015)

Marand Precision Engineering (2012)

Planet Innovation (2022)

Qenos (2013)

SRX Global (2014)

Sutton Tools (2017)

Company Inductions

A.W. Bell Pty Ltd ADA (2011)	Brintons Carpets (2003)	Future Fibre Technologies (2014)
Advanced Polymer Technology Australasia (2009)	Cablex (2016)	Futuris Automotive Interiors (Australia) (2011)
Aerostaff Australia Pty Ltd (2008)	Carbon Revolution (2015)	GBC Scientific Equipment (2003)
Air International Group (2002)	CDS Technologies (2003)	Gekko Systems (2004)
Air Radiators Pty Ltd (2006)	CE Bartlett (2006)	Gippsland Aeronautics (2004)
Aisin Australia (2008)	Champion Compressors	GKN Aerospace Engineering Services (2006)
Albins Off Road Gear (2007)	Charlwood Design (2007)	GlaxoSmith Kline Australia (2003)
Alcoa of Australia (2006)	Close the Loop (2016)	Godfrey Hirst Australia (2003)
Al-Ko (2013)	Clyne Foods (2009)	GP Graders (2015)
Alstom Transport Australia (2015)	Coating and Industrial Technologies (2003)	H&H Machine Tools Australia (2016)
AME Systems (2008)	Cobalt Design (2016)	Haines Hunter (2006)
AMR Hewitts Print Packaging (2003)	Colour Vision Systems (2005)	Hakubaku (2006)
ANCA (2003)	Colourcraft Printing (2002)	Hawker de Havilland (2005)
Andrew Peace Wines (2016)	Compumedics Limited (2007)	Hazeldene's Chicken Farms (2011)
APS Plastics (2005)	Coolon (2022)	Hella Australia (2009)
ArchIBlox (2015)	Corex Plastics (Australia) Pty Ltd (2012)	Henry Haymes (t/as Haymes Paint) (2012)
Armstrong World Industries (2008)	Creative Cabinets (2004)	Hickory Building Systems (2015)
Assa Abloy (2013)	CSL Limited (2003)	Hilton Manufacturing (2008)
Athlegen (2004)	CSL Behring (2016)	HM Gem Engines (2007)
Austeng (2009)	Dairy Innovation Australia Ltd (2015)	Holden Special Vehicles (2019)
Australian Arrow (2002)	Davey Products (2005)	Hospira Australia (2012)
Australian Automotive Air (2002)	Diver Consolidated Industries (2009)	Hydrix (2011)
Australian Precision Technology (2014)	Duratrax International (2015)	INC Corporation (2004)
Australian Rollforming Manufacturers (2011)	DVR Engineering Pty Ltd (2013)	Integra Systems (2022)
Australian Turntable Company (2010)	DAIR Industries Pty Ltd (2007)	Invetech (2003)
Autofab Australia (2003)	EBM Papst (2016)	Injectronics (2008)
Autoliv Australia (2002)	Ecotech (2008)	Institute of Drug Technology (2003)
Avon Graphics (2002)	Ego Pharmaceuticals (2011)	Integra Systems (2013)
Backwell IXL (2011)	Elastomers Australia (2022)	J Furphy & Sons (2002)
Barker Trailers (2019)	Extel Technologies (2013)	Jayco Corporation (2005)
Basell Australia (2008)	Fantech (2012)	Jindi Cheese Pty Ltd (2010)
Bervar (T/as Della Rosa Foods Group) (2014)	Fairmont Medical Products (2015)	JS Melbourne Controls (2002)
Bluescope Steel Limited (2010)	Fergusson Plarre Bakehouses (2010)	Keech Australia (2015)
BOC (2013)	Ferndale Confectionery (2013)	Kingfisher International (2005)
Boeing Aerostructures Australia (2018)	Finewrap Australia (2002)	Koko Black (2012)
Bombardier Transportation Australia (2011)	Flavour Makers (2014)	Kraft Foods (2010)
Boss Polymer Technologies (2012)	FMP Group (2008)	Laucke Flour Mills (2014)
Boundary Bend Olives (2014)	Foodmach (2022)	LangTech International Pty Ltd (2015)
	Ford Motor Company (2005)	Laurent Bakery Pty Ltd (2014)

Company Inductions (continued)

Lochard Limited (2004)
Lovitt Technologies Australia (2009)
Lumen Australia (2008)
Marand Precision Engineering (2012)
Masterfoods (2005)
Maton (2014)
McPhersons Printing Group (2002)
Melba Industries (2004)
Metaltec Precision International (2006)
Mett (2010)
MHG Asia Pacific (2016)
MIL- Systems (2016)
Millenium Electronics (2015)
MiniFab (Australia) (2011)
Mobil Refinery Australia (Altona) (2015)
Morgan Advanced Materials Australia (2016)
MtM (2009)
MSD Animal Health (2016)
Murray Goulburn Co-operative (2010)
NCI Packaging (2022)
NeoProducts (2006)
NHP Electrical Engineering Products (2012)
Nissan Casting (2022)
Note Printing Australia Ltd (2007)
Olex Australia (2004)
Oz Press (2006)
PACCAR Australia (Kenworth Trucks) (2018)
Pantalica Cheese Company Ltd (2011)
Patties Foods (2006)
Paz Group (2016)
PBR Australia (2002)
Pemara Labels Australia (2014)
Placard (2002)
Planet Innovation (2022)
PMP Print (2002)
Production Parts (2005)
PZ Cussons Australia (2009)
Qenos (2011)
Radio Frequency Systems (2009)

RFI Technology Solutions (2016)
RMIT University (2015)
Robert Bosch (Australia) (2019)
Roma Food Products (2002)
Ronstan International (2003)
Rosebank Engineering (2003)
RUAG Australia (2019)
Schiavello Group of Companies (2008)
Sealite (2006)
SGE Analytical Science (2014)
Siemens VDO Automotive (2002)
SRX Global (Australia) (2014)
STS Creative Printing (2002)
Swinburne University (2016)
Sutton Tools (2017)
Tenix Defence (2005)
Thales Australia (2007)
TNA Australia (2003)
Torian Wireless (2007)
Toyota Australia (2006)
TransGlaze (2014)
TriMas Corporation (2007)
United Bonded Fabrics (2012)
Universal Biosensors (2013)
Viridian Glass (2010)
Visy Preprint (2003)
Visy Recycling (2007)
Volgren Australia (2006)
Warren & Brown Technologies (2017)
Whittley Marine Industries (2003)
Willow Ware Australia (2010)
Wilson Transformer (2011)

High Growth Sectors

Albins Performance Transmissions (2018)
Alstom Transport Australia (2015)
Andrew Peace Wines (2016)
Bombardier Transportation (2011)
Chobani (2018)
Cobalt Design (2016)
Dairy Innovation Australia (2015)
Entegra Signature Structures (2018)
Fairmont Medical Products (2015)
IDT Australia (2017)
Impresa House (2017)
Keppell Prince Engineering (2018)
LangTech International (2015)
Leica Biosystems (2018)
MHG Asia Pacific (2016)
Millennium Electronics (2015)
Mil-Systems (2016)
MSD Animal Health (2016)
Procal Dairies (2017)
RMIT Advanced Manufacturing Precinct (2015)
Setec (2017)
Swinburne University of Technology (2016)

The background is a dark grey field filled with numerous thin, white, diagonal lines and small white dots, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern. The lines vary in length and orientation, while the dots are scattered throughout. The overall effect is reminiscent of a starry night sky or a microscopic view of a material.

2023 Victorian Manufacturing
Hall Of Fame Awards

Award Recipients and Finalists

Honour Roll

Service to Industry

Winner

Elizabeth Lewis-Gray

Co-Founder and Chair
Gekko Systems

Elizabeth Lewis-Gray is the co-founder and Chair of Gekko Systems, a global technology leader in mineral processing based in Ballarat. In 2020, at the request of Ballarat's local medical community, Gekko Medical was established to design, develop, and manufacture a purpose-built ventilator in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. This medical device was the first unit to be approved by the TGA in Australia and is a testament to Gekko's world class innovation, engineering and design capabilities.

Elizabeth holds a Bachelor of Economics, a Securities Institute Diploma, a Master's in Business Management and an Honorary Doctorate from Federation University. She has served as a member of the Australian Government's Innovation Australia Board and National Precincts Board, and the Victorian Government's Resources Advisory Council. Elizabeth was the founding chair of the federal Mining Equipment, Technology and Services (METS) Growth Centre, METS Ignited, and an independent Director for Toronto-based Agnico Eagle Mining. Elizabeth has received the Austmine Lifetime Membership Award, is a recipient of the AFR 100 Australian Women of Influence Award and the Warren Centre Innovation Heroes Award.



Manufacturing Apprentice of the Year

Winners

Daniel Malone

Apprentice
ANCA

Daniel Malone's journey in manufacturing began in 2018, when he joined ANCA as a store person. During his five years working at ANCA, Daniel has consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic and desire to learn. Following through on his ambition to progress his career, Daniel attained a Fitting and Turning Apprenticeship where he received excellent feedback from his Apprentice Master, TAFE teachers and ANCA supervisors.

Upon completion of his Certificate III in Mechanical Trade, Daniel will be commencing a Diploma in Engineering Technology in Mechatronics. He intends to solidify his knowledge and experience in his chosen trade before looking to secure a position in ANCA's projects technician team to allow him to utilise and broaden his skill set across the wider business.

Emma Mokalei

Apprentice Electrician
Essity

Emma Mokalei is a Māori and Niuean and Torres Strait woman and was raised with strong values and a pride in her culture and language. These are the same values she has lived by to raise her three children.

When her career as a professional rugby player came to an end, she found her calling to work in the electrical field. Motivated by the prospect of a hands-on career that would challenge her, Emma joined Essity as an apprentice. Emma shines with her enthusiasm, curiosity, and dedication to learning. She attends Chisolm Frankston TAFE where her passion and drive have resulted in her being top of her class and achieving a 100% mark for every subject. In February 2023, Emma won the Empowered Women in Trades, Apprentice of the Year award, which recognises female apprentices from all disciplines across Australia.

Finalist

Jessica Forbes

Apprentice
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

Jessica Forbes joined Boeing Aerostructures Australia in 2019 as a fabrication operator supporting the manufacture of 787 Dreamliner wing components. Three years later, she joined the MQ-28 fabrication team, an uncrewed aircraft designed and built in Australia. Now, Jessica is part of Boeing's Female Apprenticeship Program, developing skills to allow her to assemble, install and maintain aircraft components, and prepare and use aircraft support equipment.

Jessica will graduate in 2025 with a Certificate IV in Aeroskills (Structures) from Aviation Australia. Jessica is currently supporting the assembly of the 787 moving trailing edge, where she has quickly progressed to the point where she can guide and mentor new employees.



Young Manufacturer of the Year

Winner

Swastik Sharma

Engineer – Special Projects
Alstom

Having graduated from Monash University in 2020 with a degree in engineering, Swastik Sharma joined Alstom's graduate program in 2021, working on the Queensland New Generation Rolling Stock project. Swastik then moved to Victoria to work at the Dandenong facility as a Graduate Engineer where he helped develop crash repair procedures.

Now an Industrial Engineer for Special Projects within Alstom, Swastik is investigating the feasibility of new technologies such as additive manufacturing and virtual reality. He also introduced a 3D printer to the Dandenong site leading to the development of a local 3D printing framework and resulting in the establishment of Alstom's first 3D Hub in Australia. Now other Alstom sites around Australia can rely on Swastik to provide 3D printing services in partnership with the Monash Centre for Additive Manufacturing.

Finalists

Erica Linehan

Apprentice Fitter and Turner
Amiga Engineering

At just 19 years old, Erica Linehan is already making waves in the manufacturing industry as an apprentice Fitter and Turner with Amiga Engineering. Erica has proven herself to be a dedicated and hardworking individual who is always eager to learn and take on new challenges. Thanks to her attention to detail and positive attitude, Erica has quickly become a valuable member of the team.

In addition to her Fitter and Turner apprenticeship, Amiga has given her the opportunity to work within the metal additive manufacturing area to further her skills on the job. Despite the demanding nature of her work, Erica is passionate about manufacturing and is committed to making a positive impact in her industry. She believes that women have an important role to play in the field of engineering and hopes to inspire other young women to pursue the same career.

Damian Cattenazzi

Mechatronics Engineer
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

In 2018, Damian Cattenazzi joined Boeing Aerostructures Australia as a Mechatronics Engineer within the Production Support Engineering team. Since then, Damian has played a critical role in enhancing the production process by solving complex equipment breakdowns, implementing efficiency improvements, and deploying next-generation robotics for both commercial and defence assembly lines, including the 787 Dreamliner and 737 Max. Damian is a subject matter expert for operating equipment effectiveness and digitalisation, overseeing the Port Melbourne site's transformation into a digital factory.

Damian Cattenazzi's passion for manufacturing, systems and automation was sparked during his time as a junior engineer at RMS Mors Smitt, a manufacturer of high-quality engineering products. Working on the production line instilled the importance of relationship building and developing a people-centred approach to all automation projects.



Woman Manufacturer of the Year

Winner

Erika Hughes

Commercial Director
Integra Systems

Erika Hughes has been providing her family business, Integra Systems, with her expertise in management, business development, strategy and marketing since 2001. In her role as Commercial Director, Erika ensures all pillars of the business are strong, and drives the strategic direction of the company. Erika has been instrumental in building Integra's new division, Integra TransForm, into a strong proprietorial division of the business.

Graduating with a Bachelor of Business from RMIT University and a Graduate Diploma in Management Leadership from Swinburne University, Erika has a passion for transferring her knowledge and insights in the areas of business transformation, manufacturing digitisation and circularity. She has been recognised industry-wide as a judge for the Women in Industry Awards and has been a guest speaker at many women in industry forums and industry knowledge-sharing events.

With her diverse knowledge and depth of experience across 20+ years in manufacturing, Erika now enjoys mentoring women in leadership as part of AMTIL's Women in Manufacturing Leadership Mentoring Program launched in 2022.

Finalists

Louisa De Vries

Consulting Manager
Bosch Australia Manufacturing Solutions (BAMS)

Louisa de Vries is a mechanical engineer with a passion for manufacturing, technology and innovation. She is the manager of the consulting team at Bosch Australia Manufacturing Solutions (BAMS), supporting manufacturers on their pathway of commercialisation, manufacturing strategy, process optimisation and expansion.

Louisa spent 18 years at GM Holden in various engineering roles and has also been a lecturer at Swinburne University of Technology. Before joining Bosch in 2021, she was part of a team that successfully delivered the COVID-19 Emergency Invasive Ventilator Project, a project which played a key role in reinvigorating local manufacturing during the pandemic. Louisa has experience in setting up greenfield sites and implementing change in existing plants in manufacturing engineering, quality, and management roles, resulting in dramatic improvements in productivity and quality.

Louisa is leading the way for females in STEM and is a passionate advocate for addressing the under representation of women in the field.

Frauke Tyrrell

Managing Director and CEO
NCI Packaging

Frauke Tyrrell was born in Konstanz, Germany and has lived and worked in various countries, (South Africa, Australia, Croatia and Spain) before finally settling in Australia in 2005.

Frauke has a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Monash University (majoring in French and Spanish) and is a qualified travel agent. For 15 years Frauke was Head of Marketing Communication at Medac GmbH, an independent pharmaceutical company in Hamburg, Germany.

In 2015, Frauke inherited NCI Packaging and became the 100% shareholder of the company following the passing of her late husband Michael Tyrrell. Since then, Frauke has been involved in the management of the business, firstly as Director and Chair, and in the last 5 years as NCI's Managing Director and CEO.

Founded in 1954, NCI Packaging will soon celebrate its 70th year anniversary making it the oldest independent packaging manufacturer in Australasia with more than 500 employees and factories in Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

Manufacturer of the Year

Regional

Winner

AME Systems Ararat

AME Systems is a leading designer and manufacturer of quality electrical wiring harnesses and assemblies based in regional Victoria. Founded in 1977, AME Systems has a long history of leadership and success in the electrical harness industry and has grown from a small business to a major player with more than 500 employees based in Ararat, Melbourne, and Malaysia.

AME Systems specialises in customised electrical solutions for heavy transport, aerospace, defence, rail, agriculture and special purpose vehicles and machinery, offering full service and support from design to delivery. AME Systems has recently expanded strategically into the defence and aviation sectors, establishing a global reputation for its innovation in manufacturing customised electrical solutions for many global giants.

As leaders in the manufacturing industry, AME Systems continue to invest in the latest technology and staff capability to offer the best electrical harness design and manufacturing services.



Finalists

Care Essentials North Geelong

Care Essentials is an innovative medical device manufacturer, specialising in supplying operating theatre and intensive care unit products from its state-of-the-art 12,000SQM facility in Geelong.

Care Essentials believes and invests in Australian manufacturing and proudly supports the 'Australian Made' campaign by showcasing its high-quality medical devices made in Victoria. Care Essentials' 'Cocoon' range is the market leader in forced air warming systems, currently exported to over 70 countries and competing with the likes of 3M, Medtronic and Smiths Medical.

Care Essentials won coveted state and federal Australian Export Awards in 2019, 2020 and 2021. Care Essentials' extensive customer base includes the country's large public and private hospital groups and all Australian state governments.



John Valves Delacombe

Established in Ballarat in 1989, John Valves designs, manufactures, and supplies valves. The company provides flow control solutions to many industries including water, oil and gas, food manufacturing and mining. John Valves invests significantly in research and development and is continuously developing new products to grow the business and manufacturing in the local area.

The original business dates back to the gold rush, when Morgan Bevan John opened his Ballarat Brass Foundry in 1896 with three employees. The business rapidly grew as MB John supplied a wide range of bronze fittings to the goldfields of Ballarat and Bendigo. As the gold rush subsided MB John was successful in the manufacture of valves in bronze, iron and steel for steam, water, air, oil, and gas services. As MB John did in the past, the new John Valves aims to be a leading manufacturer, providing an uninterrupted supply of local product for local industry.



Winner

Amiga Engineering Tullamarine

Amiga Engineering is a leading advanced manufacturer with over 35 years of experience in providing innovative solutions to complex engineering challenges, servicing a range of industries including medical, aerospace, space and defence.

Amiga excels in precision engineering and its state-of-the-art facility is equipped with advanced machinery, allowing the production of high-precision components to exact customer specifications. One specialty is manufacturing industrial gearboxes under the Genat & Wood brand name, with all metal parts manufactured in-house at Amiga's facility in Tullamarine.

Amiga places great emphasis on innovation, constantly exploring new techniques and materials to enhance engineering processes. The company's dedication to quality and commitment to delivering exceptional customer service and dedication to staying at the forefront of engineering advancements have made them a trusted partner for businesses seeking reliable engineering solutions.

Finalists

Light + Glo Truganina

Founded in 2015, Light + Glo is a multi-award-winning manufacturer of boutique fragrance products, that are stocked nationally and internationally. Combining an effortlessly cool Melbourne aesthetic with ethical practices like sustainable and responsible sourcing, Light + Glo's fragrance products are a contemporary take on age-old perfumes.

Light + Glo's core business of exploring scents and distilling aroma gave rise to a second operational arm, BrandScent. BrandScent's team led by doctors turned alchemists focuses on scent marketing and experiential marketing, creating signature scents for brands and help foster memorable brand associations that transform consumer experiences. BrandScent has already forged many successful partnerships with iconic global and national brands such as American Express, Bega, and Arnotts and Commonwealth Bank. Both Light + Glo and BrandScent have won numerous industry awards and through the power of scent, redefine the experience economy.

Duratray International Bayswater

Duratray International is a leading designer and manufacturer of high-efficiency and customised dump bodies for the mining industry's haulage equipment. With headquarters and a manufacturing facility in Bayswater, Duratray International is the only dump body manufacturer based in Victoria and one of the three largest in the world.

Through ongoing innovation in the design of its trays, Duratray has been able to offer customisable and cost-effective solutions in haulage equipment, responding to the most challenging mining conditions. Approximately 2,000 Duratray International dump bodies are currently operating globally, ranging in sizes from 40 to 400 tones for all major truck manufacturers, including Caterpillar, Komatsu and Liebherr.

Since inception in 2001, Duratray International has grown its international footprint to more than 35 countries and established offices and manufacturing facilities in numerous locations including South Africa, Chile, United States and Canada.

Manufacturer of the Year

Medium Business

Winner

Farm Foods Breakwater Geelong

Farm Foods began as a small shop in Birregurra selling fresh hand-made meat products and has grown over the last 25 years to become a strong regional meat manufacturing business servicing Coles, Woolworths and Aldi stores nationally.

With a 135 strong workforce, Farm Foods prides itself on being a high-quality, flexible, adaptable, and progressive business at the forefront of consumer trends and product innovation. Farm Foods’ can-do attitude and always delivering on what it commits to, is highly regarded by its key trading partners.

Farm Foods has an expanding international business with its own entity set up in the United States where it has supplied products to leading US retailers such as Walmart, Kroger and Aldi USA.

Farm Foods is privately owned by the three Kerr brothers and remains a strong supporter of regional manufacturing and employment in the Geelong and Western region of Victoria.



Finalists

Nissan Casting Australia Mulgrave

Founded in 1982, Nissan Casting Australia (NCAP) is based in Southeast Melbourne and has established itself as a market leader in die cast manufacturing, specifically for electric vehicle (EV) and hybrid vehicle components, both for Nissan and other vehicle manufacturers.

NCAP is self-sufficient for engineering and able to launch new projects without support from Nissan Japan due to the recognition of exceptional engineering capability within the company. This allows NCAP to provide component design input for die casting and manufacture of electric vehicle components for some of the world’s top-selling EV and hybrid vehicles.

To date, NCAP has supplied more than 500,000 units globally for the Nissan LEAF EV alone. Nissan's leadership in electric vehicles demonstrates not only the company's commitment to progress and the environment, but also to bringing cleaner quiet power and transportation to the world.



Dynamic Steel Frame Dandenong South

Dynamic Steel Frame is Victoria’s leading independent light gauge steel framing manufacturer and recognised globally as a leader in the field. The company manufactures for all segments of the building industry including commercial, residential, medium density, modular, social housing, bespoke homes, façades, and even tiny houses.

Builders appreciate the Building Information Modeling approach to design enabling the designs to be ironed out before manufacture, resulting in reduced rework on site, fewer trades, and faster erection times.

Dynamic Steel Frame prides itself on impeccable, robust and fully compliant designs, , customer service and industry knowledge. Creating complex award-winning designs using innovative and cutting-edge technologies, the company has driven industry development and played a major role in the evolution of consumer opinion about using light gauge steel in the building process. Proudly Australian owned, supplied and manufactured, Dynamic Steel Frame is providing a lighter, straighter, better way to build.



Winner

Boeing Aerostructures Australia Port Melbourne

Boeing Aerostructures Australia at Fishermans Bend in Melbourne is Australia's only designer and advanced manufacturer of structural composite components for Boeing's commercial airplanes. The company has a long heritage in Australian aviation that began with its legacy companies in 1927 and has included the manufacture of an aircraft that served in the Royal Australian Air Force during World War Two.

Today the business designs, tests, certifies, and produces world class advanced structures and control surfaces including part of the trailing edge of the most technically advanced commercial aircraft in the world – the Boeing 787 Dreamliner.

The company's experience in advanced robotics, composite materials and digital engineering enables an innovative approach to the creation and production of systems

With nearly 1000 employees on site, Boeing Aerostructures Australia has developed a successful advanced manufacturing ecosystem involving hundreds of local suppliers, the on-site support and integration of Boeing Research & Technology – Australia engineers, as well as strategic collaborations with various research partners.

Finalists

NCI Packaging Preston, Tullamarine

NCI Packaging is a privately owned packaging company with its head office based in Preston and servicing many of the region's leading manufacturers and brands. NCI has evolved from a specialist manufacturer of tinplate industrial cans to become a key product partner to many of Australia's leading paint, food, and aerosol brands. Today NCI produces tinplate, aluminium and plastic packaging for various markets.

With almost 70 years of experience, NCI Packaging is highly respected within the industry. In Victoria the business has two manufacturing sites, metal in Preston and plastic in Tullamarine with a total of 216 employees in Victoria. NCI operates 4 factories in Australia, 2 in New Zealand, 1 in Papua New Guinea and 1 in Fiji with more than 500 staff.

NCI strives continually to reduce CO2 emissions and implement environmental best practices across the business. NCI Packaging has initiated various environmental actions as part of its "Acting Now" Environmental Strategy including the introduction of solar power on all Australian sites (2000kw) and the use of recycled resin (50/50) in its plastic packaging production.

Krueger Transport Equipment Truganina

Krueger Transport is a name that has become synonymous with excellence in the Australian transport industry. For 45 years, this proudly western suburbs-based company has been manufacturing heavy-duty trailers in Victoria, establishing themselves as leaders in the field.

Founder John Krueger built the business driven by a passion to improve the safety, performance, and productivity of Australia's transport and logistics industry. This drive has guided Krueger throughout the years, leading them to patent numerous innovations and designs that have since become industry standards. Their products are highly versatile and incorporate features that enhance efficiency and reliability.

As Krueger celebrates its 45-year milestone, their reputation for quality and innovation remains unrivalled. They've set a benchmark for trailer manufacturing in Australia and continue to be a trusted name on the nation's roads. With their dedication to continuous improvement, Krueger is poised to remain a leader in the industry for years to come.



Leader in

Defence, Aerospace and Space

Winner

SPEE3D

Dandenong South

SPEE3D is an innovative Australian supplier of metal-based additive manufacturing technology. SPEE3D focuses on the development, assembly, and distribution of machines and integrated system solutions based on patented cold-spray technology. The products enable significantly faster, lower-cost, and more scalable production than traditional metal printing techniques.

The company has two offices in Australia, with headquarters in Melbourne and an office in Darwin. SPEE3D also has offices in the United Kingdom, United States, and Germany, and has customers and distributors in Australia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, Japan, France, South Korea and El Salvador.

In recent years, SPEE3D's technology has been extensively tested by the Australian Army, US Navy, Royal Australian Navy, and British Army. The company was awarded the US Defense Strategies Institute's inaugural Expeditionary and Tactical 3D Printing Award for its world-leading expeditionary advanced manufacturing technology.

Finalists

Moog Australia

Heatherton

Established in 1979, Moog Australia Pty Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Moog Inc. In Australia, Moog provides mission-critical systems and components across Air, Land, and Sea platforms, including the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, F/A-18 Super Hornet, UH-60 Blackhawk and MH-60R Seahawk, Australian Light Armoured Vehicle (ASLAV), Boxer CRV, M113AS4 APC, M1A1 Tank, Amphibious Assault Ship (LHD), Air Warfare Destroyer (AWD), and Collins Class Submarine.

Moog Australia serves as the regional headquarters for Moog's Defence technologies in the Asia Pacific region with its head office located in Heatherton and an additional sales office in Seoul, South Korea. As a global company, Moog also has product support locations for its Defence technologies in multiple countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Germany and Ireland providing comprehensive support to customers across the globe.

Moog's mission is to design and manufacture mission-critical defence solutions from Australia for the Indo-Pacific, with a focus on weaponisation and precision motion control.

Stahl Metall

Knoxfield

Since its founding in 2016, Stahl Metall has achieved a record of growth, innovation, and excellence in the field of cable harness and control systems, establishing itself as a leading partner for communication, power, and electrical enclosure assemblies. Stahl Metall has experienced steady growth and is now operating in 3 state-of-the-art design and manufacturing facilities in Melbourne with AS 9100 (Aerospace) and ISO 9001 accreditations. Stahl Metall's exceptional capabilities in the design and manufacturing of complex cable and harness assemblies have made the company a trusted supplier for major Australian Defence and other high-profile programs, where its products play a critical role in ensuring successful outcomes.

Stahl Metall products are designed and built to withstand the toughest conditions, and their reliability and precision are widely recognised across various industries. The use of LEAN Six Sigma continuous improvement processes and lean manufacturing methodologies ensure that Stahl Metall remains at the forefront of the industry.

SPEE3D

MOOG



Winner

Modra Technology Warragul

Modra Technology is a provider of solutions for product development and automation for the soft floor covering industry worldwide. This includes tile, carpet and rug designers and manufacturers, carpet yarn producers and independent soft floor covering designers. Modra supplies carpet sample machines which use minimal resources (single packages of yarn per colour) to allow designers, marketers and salespeople to develop and showcase new ideas in soft floor coverings.

Modra also supplies automation solutions to this industry. To this end, Modra's innovative robotic carpet yarn creeling system CreelMT is installed in the carpet factory to provide more accurate preparation of yarn for carpet tufting machines, saving material and labour costs.

Modra's team of highly skilled technicians and engineers can quickly prototype, test, and implement new ideas for their customers. Modra has delivered over 500 machines to customers in more than 30 countries directly and through a network of sales agents.

Finalists

MEMKO Tullamarine

MEMKO is an engineering and technology company based in Melbourne with leading industry expertise in digital engineering and advanced manufacturing. With the recent launch of its own product MEACAT (Modular Electronic Attack Capable Air Target), MEMKO has proven capability in applying virtual twin technologies from ideation to product delivery and in service support.

MEMKO offers industry specific products, technology, training and engineering solutions to assist and support customers in advanced and highly regulated industries such as aerospace, defence, electric vehicle, battery and hydrogen heavy vehicles. Through its strategic partnerships with universities including RMIT and Deakin, MEMKO is looking to lead the way in the creation of the critical workforce of the future and the commercialisation of research.

Successful Endeavours Narre Warren

Successful Endeavours' first and foremost goal is to solve complex problems by designing and manufacturing electronics products that are made in Victoria. Successful Endeavours starts a new product development of a custom advanced digital appliance every 2 days, advancing the design of custom electronics products that can be made profitably in Victoria.

Successful Endeavours' client base ranges from small one-person companies with niche products to large multinationals. Having developed a large IP base and strong Victorian supply chain relationships, Successful Endeavours is also able to license this IP into projects to speed up time to market and reduce design costs while continuing to manufacture locally.

Leader in

Food and Beverage

Winner

That's Amore Cheese
Thomastown

That's Amore Cheese is an award-winning Italian style cheese producer proudly using farm-fresh local milk and the finest Australian ingredients. 100% natural, preservative free and handmade, That's Amore Cheese's team of more than 100 currently craft more than 60 different types of artisan cheese, processing 8 million litres of milk per year.

Born in Sicily, Giorgio Linguanti went from not speaking a word of English to transforming his passion for prime quality foods into an internationally renowned business with a one-stop shop and a cheese production factory where Italian signature taste is constantly reinterpreted and reinvented.



Finalists

Wonder Pies
Coburg North

Wonder Pies started in 2018 in Bulleen and quickly established a reputation for making the best pies in Victoria. The range of products grew, the business increased rapidly both locally and nationally and in turn the team expanded. Wonder Pies now supplies all major events, caterers, and exhibition centres through to supermarkets, cafes, and restaurants and can be found in Adelaide, Sydney and Queensland.

Wonder Pies launched Baketico as its retail bakery arm following business growth during the pandemic. To appeal all budgets, the business also produces Nana Frasers which is a supporting line of pies and sweets. In addition, Wonder Pies manufactures Plantico to represent its vegan and gluten free range, as well as the Raymond Capaldi Food Service series which is a range of pre portioned and prepared restaurant ready meals to assist in bolstering the hospitality industry through the skills shortage crisis and combat unsustainable operational costs.



Florida Cheese
Thomastown

Florida Cheese is an Australian family-owned business located in Thomastown. The company manufactures and supplies Italian style cheese to the retail, foodservice and food ingredients markets and has been a proud manufacturer of traditional Italian cheese since 1955.

Florida Cheese is currently run by third generation family members and has been making award-winning traditional Italian style cheese for more than 60 years using time honoured traditional methods combined with a passion to produce the highest quality products. Milk is sourced locally from both the Western districts and Yarra Valley and delivered fresh into the site daily. The manufacturing plant consists of milk pasteurisation, cheese production, packing and also runs its own distribution network locally. Florida has been exporting its products since 2004 to countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia with export sales accounting for approximately 40 % of total sales.



Winner

3DMEDiTech Port Melbourne

3DMEDiTech is a world leader in the transformation of supply chains, securing better patient outcomes in Australia and providing global partners with the means for effective bio-security processes. 3DMEDiTech has developed rapid capacity manufacturing at scale through advanced 3D printing to counter critical shortages in the supply of testing kits, personalised medical devices, and other clinical devices.

3DMeditech worked with the Victorian Infectious Diseases Research Laboratory to design the world's first 3D printed saliva swab for rapid testing during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2022, 3DMEDiTech launched a Joint Research Training Centre for Medical Technologies in partnership with the University of Melbourne to grow the talent pool of industry-ready biomedical engineers.

3DMEDiTech has collaborated with the Doherty Institute, the University of Melbourne, and the Royal Melbourne Hospital, to produce the world's most effective 3D printed nasopharyngeal swab (patent pending) with 3DMEDiTech contracted to produce 10% of the 10 million swabs in the Australian Government's National Stockpile.

Finalists

Leica Biosystems Mount Waverley

Leica Biosystems is a cancer diagnostics company and a global leader in workflow solutions with a mission of "Advancing Cancer Diagnostics, Improving Lives". Having grown from a start-up design and development business specialising in biotech, Leica Biosystems is now one of the top global companies in tissue pathology offering the most comprehensive portfolio from biopsy to diagnosis. Today Leica Biosystems exports more than 90% of all products designed and manufactured in its Melbourne facility.

Innovation is at the heart of Leica Biosystems' success, partnering with commercial companies and research facilities across the world to improve the diagnostic landscape to develop and ultimately commercialise cutting-edge diagnostic test solutions that help identify patients who are likely to benefit from emerging therapies, a critical element of personalised medicine.

Cyclotek Bundoora

As a leading radiopharmaceutical manufacturer in Australia and New Zealand, Cyclotek's mission is to improve patient outcomes by making targeted radiopharmaceuticals accessible. Cyclotek's novel Positron Emission Tomography tracers provide patient-specific insights into a patient's disease state, enabling earlier diagnosis, more accurate assessment of disease extent and improved treatment planning and monitoring. Cyclotek's suite of radionuclide therapies allow for the highly targeted delivery of therapeutic radiation to disease sites, with minimal side effects compared to traditional chemotherapy and immunotherapy.

With nuclear medicine and radiotherapy listed as a critical technology of national interest in 2020, the research, development and clinical use of these products in Australia has grown exponentially. Cyclotek is committed to delivering the capacity and capability to meet the demand for targeted diagnostics and therapies in Australia.

Leader in

Rolling Stock and Transport

Winner

Evolution Rail Newport

The Evolution Rail consortium comprises Downer, CRRC and Plenary Group.

Evolution Rail is contracted by the Victorian Government under a public-private partnership to deliver the High-Capacity Metro Trains project. The project is the largest single order of new trains in Victoria's history, and the first new train design in nearly 20 years.

The Victorian Government ordered 70 high-capacity metro trains as part of a \$2.3 billion investment, including a new train maintenance facility in Pakenham East and a light service facility in Calder Park. The trains are being delivered with more than 60% local content and the project created over 1,100 new jobs at its peak including more than 100 long-term maintenance jobs.

Finalists

Lockelec Rolling Stock Braeside

Based in Braeside, Lockelec Rolling Stock is Australia's leading Rolling Stock disability access supplier specialising in providing inclusive and accessible solutions for railway systems.

Offering customised solutions, Lockelec's team of experts works closely with railway operators and manufacturers to design and implement innovative solutions that meet the highest accessibility standards aiming to enhance the travel experience for passengers with disabilities. From wheelchair ramps and accessible seating to audio-visual announcements and tactile signage, Lockelec's solutions are designed to create an inclusive environment onboard trains.

Lockelec's commitment to excellence in design and engineering combined with a deep understanding of disability access regulations and best practices ensures that the company's solutions not only comply with relevant accessibility guidelines but also exceed expectations, setting new industry standards for inclusivity.

McMillan Engineering Group Dandenong South

McMillan Engineering Group is a privately owned business operating in Dandenong South celebrating its 50-year anniversary this year. Originally from Port Melbourne, the company moved to Dandenong South to better service the Rail Industry.

McMillan Engineering Group has an emphasis on supplying major underframe components for rolling stock that are welded and machined to tight tolerances. The company combines significant investments in staff, Okuma machine centres and welding technologies with experience drawn from hydraulic cylinder manufacture and various complex projects the company has undertaken across Australia including engineering innovations in stress beds used in the pre-cast industry. A recent product development is a 3000 tons stress bed for T-Roff production in Western Australia which is the largest known worldwide.

McMillan Engineering Group's markets are throughout Australia with approximately 20% of sales exported to Asia and the Middle East.

Winner

Energys Mulgrave

Energys is a visionary leader and manufacturer of world-leading zero-emissions hydrogen power products. With a focus on advanced manufacturing capabilities, Energys has established state-of-the-art production lines and manufacturing processes that set new benchmarks in the industry.

Over the years, Energys has successfully built and delivered a range of products from its facility in Mulgrave, including zero-emissions hydrogen fuel cell generators, megawatt scale powerhouses, and modular fuel cell engines. These products have been deployed in various applications, both in Australia and overseas, showcasing Energys' commitment to delivering reliable and zero-emissions power solutions to local and export markets.

Supported by a team of highly skilled engineers, technicians, and specialists, Energys combines advanced manufacturing expertise with cutting edge technology to create ground breaking products that drive the transition towards a zero-emissions future.

Finalists

Essity Springvale

Essity is a leading global hygiene and health company and manufacturer of personal and professional hygiene products. With a strong commitment to making products onshore, Essity's Australian headquarters and manufacturing site in Springvale has been in operation for 45 years, ensuring local supply around Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

Essity is the sole manufacturer and exporter of period products in Australasia, under the iconic Australian market-leading brand Libra, and more recently the Australian start-up TOM Organic. Essity is also the only local manufacturer of incontinence products under its global TENA brand.

In early 2023, in pursuit of a more sustainable option for disposal of used incontinence products, Essity worked with government, industry partners and B2B customers on Australia's first large scale trial for the separation, collection, and recycling of used incontinence pads from residential aged care facilities. With aged care waste accounting for 50,000 tons of waste to landfill in Australia each year, the results of this trial are expected to demonstrate the potential for a significant reduction in waste including plastic waste in landfill.

Bortana Bendigo

Bortana is the original equipment manufacturer of the Bortana EV, an all-electric 4WD designed to meet the zero emission needs of the mining industry. The Bortana EV has been purpose built to provide mine sites with a work-ready zero emission vehicle with a focus on longevity through inherent corrosion protection.

Using a galvanised body and sealed chassis, the Bortana EV is anticipated to last 7-10 years in an underground environment, producing zero emissions, reduced heat, and lower required maintenance. In Australia, Bortana is the only original equipment manufacturer (OEM) building an electric vehicle for mining that is not a retrofit.

Bortana is also working extensively in the software development space to ensure that vehicles meet the needs of the industry, producing knowledge that can be applied by other OEMs with the aim of paving the way for more electric vehicle manufacturers in Victoria and Australia.

Leader in

Manufacturing

Winner

Think Fencing Portarlinton

Think Fencing is a leading manufacturer of innovative polymer fencing technologies and, since its establishment in 2009, has grown to become a market leader as a manufacturer of recycled polymer fencing for the equine industry.

The company's focus on sustainability has also led to the development of innovative technology in partnership with the CSIRO, to recycle PVC materials that would otherwise end up in landfill.

Think Fencing's products have been rigorously tested and proven to meet or exceed industry standards. Among others, Think Fencing has collaborated with Simtrack to develop the world's safest racetrack running rail system for thoroughbred racetracks. The system has been extensively tested and is used by major organisations such as the Hong Kong Jockey Club and Flemington Racecourse.



Finalists

Integra Systems Broadmeadows

Integra Systems, established in 1991, is a 100% Australian-owned industrial product design and advanced manufacturing enterprise in Melbourne's north, centred around light metal. With a motto to 'Make Your Vision Real', Integra transforms customer concepts into fully resolved designs that can then be produced in Integra's advanced manufacturing facility.

As leaders in Industry 4.0, Integra's proprietary innovations in i4.0 under the Integra TransForm division have been used to fully digitise their operations, providing both the means and the example for other manufacturers to follow. Additionally, all Integra innovations are driven by the principles of the circular economy, particularly waste minimisation, and cradle-to cradle approach across each stage of the design, manufacturing and repurposing lifecycle.

Working extensively with universities to nurture the 'manufacturers of tomorrow' and employing people from different cultures and backgrounds, Integra Systems constantly pushes boundaries while remaining committed to their core values: respect, progressiveness, collaboration, passion and sustainability.



Smallaire Horsham

Smallaire started in the small rural town of Rainbow in 1974 as a tank manufacturer. After expanding to manufacture evaporative air conditioners, Smallaire grew rapidly and moved to a larger factory in Horsham. In addition to evaporative air conditioners, Smallaire designs and manufactures agricultural, horticultural, dairy, poultry, and other products for almost any application. What began as a local business now caters for clients across Australia internationally to the United States, Canada, South Africa, New Zealand and other countries.

Smallaire has won multiple awards including Wimmera Business Awards in 2018 and 2022 and was a Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame finalist in 2018. Smallaire is part of the Australian Made campaign, exporting around the world, and is known for an extensive range of quality products.

Custom designing products to suit niche markets, Smallaire uses client feedback as valuable information to improve, design and develop innovative new and adapt existing products through continuous research and development.



Thank you to all the company and individual nominees to the 2023 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame Awards for their time and commitment. This year's nominations contributed to a very high quality awards program.

Individual Nominees

Mr Damian Michael Cattenazzi,
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

Ms Kerry Caulfield,
Composites Australia

Ms Jeanette Christine Collier,
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

Mr Muhammad Farooq,
Expandable Tiny Homes

Ms Jessica Forbes,
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

Mr Damien Freihofer,
Ronstan International

Mr Leslie Gason, AF Gason

Ms Lynette George, Austeng

Mr Alan Hardman, Hardman Bros

Mr Mal Hardman, Hardman Bros

Mrs Erika Hughes, Integra Systems

Mr Kaiden King, Austruck Truck Bodies

Ms Elizabeth Lewis-Gray, Gekko Systems

Ms Erica Linehan, Amiga Engineering

Mr Daniel Malone, ANCA

Mr Ryan Melmeth, Wilson Transformer

Mr Ben Mickelborough, Steg Engineering

Ms Emma Mokalei, Essity

Mr Joel Nadan, Nu-Lite Balustrading

Mr Gordon New, Ronson Gears

Mr Alexander Papas,
Melbourne Polytechnic

Ms Narelle Plapp, Grain and Bake

Mr Bailey Stone, William Adams

Mr Swastik Sharma,
Alstom Transportation Australia

Ms Elizabeth Thornton,
Boeing Aerostructures Australia

Ms Frauke Tyrrell, NCI Packaging

Mrs Louisa de Vries, Bosch Australia
Manufacturing Solutions (BAMS)

Ms Xiaofang (Fiona) Xu,
UA Manufacturing

Company Nominees

3DMEDiTech

A Bending Company

AME Systems

Amiga Engineering

Australian National Fabrication
Facility – Victoria Node

Boeing Aerostructures Australia

Bortana

Care Essentials

Catten Industries

Cyclotek

Dynamic Steel Frame

Duratray International

Edencraft International

Elastomers Australia

Energys

Essity

Evolution Rail

Farm Foods

Floridia Cheese

Hardman Bros

Integra Systems

John Valves

Krueger Transport Equipment

Leica Biosystems Melbourne

Light + Glo

Lockelec Rolling Stock

MaxiTRANS Services

Merriwa Industries

NCI Packaging

Masterpiece Caravans

McMillan Engineering Group

MEMKO

Modra Technology

Moog Australia

Nissan Casting Australia

R.G. Ladd

Safety Shovel

Smallaire

SPEE3D

Stahl Metall

Successful Endeavours

SYNC Building Systems

Tait

That's Amore Cheese

Think Fencing

Tontine Group

UA Manufacturing

Wonder Pies

**/MADE IN
VICTORIA**

