

AUSTRALIA'S BEST EMERGING TECH COMPANIES ANNOUNCED

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Key Highlights:

- **Calix**, a Sydney company that has developed a revolutionary foliar spray for plants that replaces toxic fungicides and pesticides won the top prize at the 2015 Australian Technologies Competition (ATC15) Showcase in Sydney last night.
- Other industry winners in Energy, Mining, Property, Manufacturing and the Global Development sectors were **Greensync**, **Southern Innovation**, **Pacific Environment**, **Ocius Technology** and **Melville Equipment** respectively.
- **Greater Adelaide** won the inaugural Innovative Regions Award.

Australia's top technology contenders battled it out for the honour of being named Australia's best emerging tech company of the year at the annual Australian Technologies Competition Showcase and Awards event last night.

Calix's mission is to simplify how things are made. It has invented and developed a super-active, magnesium-based foliar spray that is safe and environmentally friendly, and replaces the need for toxic fungicides and pesticides for a wide variety of crops.

The Sydney company has demonstrated and is now in the process of registering the product on tropical crops across South-East Asia including bananas, pineapple, cassava and coffee. It is also now undergoing trials on vineyards in France

Company CEO, Phil Hodgson said *"We are thrilled to be named Technology Company of the Year and to have gained the experience from the Business Accelerator program. For us, this isn't about winning an award; it is an opportunity to get practical assistance and coaching to improve our business."*

"We gained not only from an expert mentor who has great experience in start-ups, but also from our fellow Finalists and the expert presenters and judges."

The Australian Technologies Competition, now in its fifth year is the leading emerging technology business accelerator program in Australia. Each year the competition receives hundreds of applicants for its eight month development program which culminates in recognising Australia's best game-changing technology companies.

The ATC15 Showcase featured a suite of world-class inventions, including technologies that improve tuna fishing, crematorium operations, smart grids and ocean monitoring. They were all judged by an eminent panel of experts during the live finals to determine which companies have the greatest potential to become a global success story in their industry.

Announcing the winners today, competition organiser and Managing Director of Australian CleanTech, Mr. John O'Brien said *"The competition this year has been incredible. An excellent cross section of Australian technology businesses comes together for this annual program, which is being increasingly recognised as a successful platform for developing and showcasing cutting edge Australian technology companies and growing their global access"*.



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Ben Waters, who previously ran GE's Ecomagination program in Australia and New Zealand and was Chairman of the Judges, said *"We had a hard task picking the winners as so many of the Finalists have huge global potential. We expect all the Winners and most of the Finalists to see significant export growth and to create many high-value Australian jobs."*

The winners were:

Advanced Manufacturing Award	Ocius Technology	Food & Agritech Award	Calix
Built Environment Award	Pacific Environment	Global Development Award	Melville Equipment
Energy Technology Award	GreenSync	Mining Technologies Award & People's Choice Award	Southern Innovation
Innovative Region Award	Greater Adelaide	Alumni Award	Raygen Resources

The Innovative Regions Award is a new addition in 2015. John O'Brien explains, *"We work with Australia's best emerging technology companies and those that succeed usually emerge from a supportive innovation ecosystem. We want to help grow and celebrate the best regions so Australia can generate even more world leading tech companies."*

The inaugural winner was the Greater Adelaide Region with its 109 innovation programs, fourteen co-working spaces and eleven incubators was announced as the inaugural Innovative Region. Dr Felicity-Ann Lewis, Chairperson of Regional Development Australia Adelaide Metropolitan said, *"Adelaide has worked hard over the last few years to understand and enhance our innovation ecosystem and has now achieved a remarkable level of collaboration and coordination across a rich landscape of support."*

With all this success and at a time when the Government states that it is backing innovation it is ironic that there is no commitment to continuing to fund the Competition into 2016. At this stage, this means the end of what has been an incredibly successful program that, on the Government's figures, has created over \$250 million worth of economic value for \$750,000 invested over five years.

The Principal Sponsor of the Competition for the third year is Autodesk, a leading software company that strives to help people imagine, design and create a better world. In addition to offering highly subsidised access to its design software through the Autodesk Clean Tech Partner Program, the company mentors Competition Finalists on how they can use technology to optimise product.

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Details of winners below.



ATC15 WINNER DESCRIPTIONS

Award	Winner	State	Description
Advanced Manufacturing	Ocius Technology	NSW	Ocius Bluebottles are a new type of Unmanned Surface Vessels (USVs) that differentiate themselves from competitors by using Ocius core technology developed over 14 years of patented Rigid Opening Sails (ROS), rudder wave oscillators and Hybrid Marine Power technology. By combining solar, wind and wave energy BlueBottles have 2-5 times the power, payload and performance when compared to known competitors.
Built Environment	Pacific Environment	NSW	Pacific Environment's EnviroSuite is a proactive environmental management system that combines real-time monitoring and predictive modelling with high resolution weather forecasting and automated data analysis to enable clients to maximise operational efficiencies whilst meeting or exceeding their regulatory compliance obligations.
Energy	GreenSync	VIC	GreenSync has built a suite of complementary products that share the fundamental aim of better balancing electricity use across the grid to reduce network, customer and generation peaks. GreenSync's PeakResponse™ and MicroEM™ products are built on a robust, industrial strength technology platform and provide energy optimisation and demand management.
Food & Agritech	Calix	NSW	Calix's mission is to simplify how things are made. Calix has invented and developed a super-active, magnesium-based plant foliar spray that is a safe, environmentally friendly and helps plants fight disease without expensive, dangerous chemicals.
Global Development	Melville Equipment	NSW	Melville Equipment has developed a machine to safely remove Pandrol Elastic railway fasteners that hold the rail to the sleepers and can become rusted into position and difficult to remove. The technology uses an impact force with a "squeeze byace" to vibrate and remove the clips in a controlled, safe manor.
Mining	Southern Innovation	VIC	Southern Innovation has developed, patented and commercialised "SITORO®" a proprietary, disruptive, digital signal processing technology for radiation-based materials analysis across a range of industries enabling real-time material characterisation capability with unprecedented speed, accuracy and scale.
Innovative Region	Greater Adelaide	SA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 109 programs supporting entrepreneurs and new ventures • 14 co-working spaces • 11 incubators and accelerator programs • Strong coordination of support programs by community stakeholders with public sector support • Polaris Centre delivers mentoring program that links new entrepreneurs with experienced business owners. • Tonsley facility supports cluster development initiatives and boosts knowledge transfer between research institutions and industry.
Alumni Award	Raygen Resources	VIC	Developing the world's lowest cost energy. Raygen's Concentrated Solar Photovoltaics (CSPV) combines the best elements of two leading solar power technologies, without their shortcomings. CSPV power stations use mirrors to concentrate light onto a dense array of ultra-efficient photovoltaic cells, 1500 times more powerful than standard ones. This system will produce clean energy with twice the efficiency of standard photovoltaics and much lower costs.