

Media Release

The Hon Philip Dalidakis MLC
Minister for Trade and Investment
Minister for Innovation and Digital Economy
Minister for Small Business



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

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VICTORIAN MEDTECH COMPANY TAKES HOME TOP EXPORT AWARD

In another win for Victoria's booming medtech and pharma sector, a leading Melbourne-based cancer diagnostic company has been named Victorian Exporter of the Year at the 39th Governor of Victoria Export Awards.

Leica Biosystems, which also won the GOVEA for Health and Biotechnology, designs and manufactures medical devices to simplify cancer diagnosis, cause less stress to patients and improve overall life expectancy.

By giving local exporters a platform to celebrate their achievements, the Andrews Labor Government is promoting Victoria's high-quality products, skills and expertise.

The win by Lecia Biosystems shows the strength of Victoria's medtech and pharma sector, with overall exports growing by 95 per cent since 2015. The sector now employs more than 23,000 people and generates \$12 billion in revenue.

This year's GOVEAs attracted entries from 49 exporters across the Victoria including many local businesses from regional Victoria.

All GOVEA winners are automatically entered in the Australian Export Awards held in November where a Victorian company has been crowned the nation's top exporter for the last five years running.

The Labor Government is helping local companies tap into new export markets and has recently launched regional trade strategies for India, China, Southeast Asia and Latin America.

The Labor Government is also driving two-way trade with its overarching trade statement, export workshops, an inbound and outbound trade mission program and the biggest network of international Trade and Investment Offices of any state or territory in Australia.

Victorian exporters are incredibly important to the economy, generating more than \$51.6 billion in 2017-18, an increase of 6.5 per cent from 2016-17.

The full list of GOVEA winners for 2018 can be found at trade.vic.gov.au/govea.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Trade and Investment Philip Dalidakis

"The GOVEAs recognise the hard work and dedication of our exporters which are boosting our economy, creating jobs and promoting Victoria as a world leading destination for trade."

"The future is bright for Victorian exports, our companies are diverse, innovative and leading the way in everything from digital technology to skincare products."

"We're very proud of all of the 2018 GOVEA winners and wish them all the best at national awards in November."