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Media Release

Celebrating excellence in the electrotechnology sector Queensland

Innovation and excellence across the electrotechnology sector was recognised at the NECA Queensland Excellence Awards held on 7 September in Brisbane.

“The winning entries were chosen because of their commitment to excellence and safety, to their significant engineering achievements and their delivery of complex jobs on time,” said Peter Lamont, Executive Director NECA Queensland.

“The entries demonstrate the importance of the sector to a number of high-profile and critical projects including Brisbane Casino Towers, Brisbane International Terminal, The Wesley Hospital and Lakeland Solar & Storage,” he said.

Winning projects included:

- **Green Switch Electrical, Mansfield**, winners of the Small Contracting Business category overcame the builder’s reservations about the size of their company to complete the electrical fit out of 70 new units before the deadline and in less hours than originally planned. As a result of their performance and valued input into the design process, they have become the builder’s preferred electrical contractor.

“We’re a small business and all of our team members are heavily invested in our success. The builder was ecstatic with our performance and the outcome achieved, and we’re now planning more projects with them as a result of the relationship we’ve built,” said Gavin Peterson, Director.

- **Blue Star Atlantic, Morningside** won the Industrial Small category with installation of all power, control and communications wiring for a complex automated mail sorting system. The installation, in a fully operational mail facility required high levels of project planning to keep the facility running and ensure the safety of Blue Star Atlantic and Australia Post staff during the electrical works.

“The high quality of workmanship and the onsite safety management in a multi-shift operational environment resulted in a satisfied client, zero incidents and Blue Star Atlantic becoming the preferred electrical contractor at the site,” said Cian Loweke, Project Supervisor.

- **Fredon (QLD)** were the Work Health & Safety Management System (Project) category winners for the apprentice mentoring program they launched while working on the Brisbane International Terminal Northern Concourse during which they launched an

apprentice monitoring program. Apprentices had access to a nominated mentor at all times and was targeted at ensuring apprentices work safely and had the support they needed to be able to stop and ask questions if unsure.

“The success of the program has seen it roll out to other Fredon projects. It creates a safe learning environment for all apprentices joining the Fredon team and over the long-term will develop better apprentices and thus tradesmen for the entire industry,” said Scott Gilbert. HSR Site Foreman.

All winners of the 2018 NECA Queensland Excellence Awards will be entered into NECA National Excellence Awards competing against winners from all other Australian states and territories for the coveted title of National Excellence Award winner.

2018 NECA Queensland Excellence Awards – Winners

Category	Winner	Project
Energy Efficiency & Environment	Blue Star Pacific	Brisbane Casino Towers
Small Contracting Business	Green Switch Electrical	Green Switch Electrical
Work Health & Safety Management System (Project)	Fredon	International Terminal Brisbane – Northern Concourse Expansion
Work Health and Safety Management System (Company)	Blue Star Pacific	Blue Star Pacific
Industrial Small Project	Blue Star Atlantic	Northgate Mail Centre Automation Project
Industrial Medium Project	Nilsen	Lakeland Solar & Storage Project
Lighting	Blue Star Pacific	Haven Apartments
Voice/Data Communications & Audio Visual	Programmed Electrical Technologies	Aurizon Headquarters
Commercial Medium	Fredon	The Wesley Hospital
Commercial Large	Nilsen	The Star Infrastructure Project

2018 NECA Queensland Excellence Awards – Highly Commended

Category	Winner	Project
Lighting Project	Stowe Australia	Illuminate Water Tower – Logan City Council
Commercial – Large Project	Fredon QLD	International Terminal Brisbane – Northern Concourse Expansion

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Notes for editors

1. *NECA is the peak industry body representing the interests of electrical and communications contractors Australia-wide.*
2. *Membership comprises over 5,000 contracting companies with over 50,000 employees.*
3. *NECA wholly-owns Registered Training Organisations and Group Training Organisations in NSW, VIC & WA, the EcoSmart Electricians initiative, ACRS (a national cabling registrar) and has a joint venture with NESS Super in NSW.*
4. *NECA employs around 2,000 apprentice electricians, training a further 2,000.*