

4 September 2018

Media Release

celebrating excellence in the electrotechnology sector Victoria

Innovation and excellence across the electrotechnology sector was recognised at the 30th anniversary of the NECA Victoria Excellence Awards held on 10 August.

“We received over 40 entries this year reflecting the diversity of the work our members undertake,” said Peter Smith, Chairman of the judging panel.

“Projects ranged from smart technology for a luxury home, an automated cattle feed-mill, backup power for Austin Hospital and LED lighting for Melbourne Markets – all demanding creative, world-class solutions which our members delivered exceeding their customer expectations,” he said.

- **Argus Technologies, Mulgrave** won the Domestic Residence category with their installation of a complex smart system for a brand new luxury residence in Mount Eliza. The installation included full electrical infrastructure, a home automation system, security and CCTV, whole of home video and audio systems and, the showpiece of the project, the design and installation of a fully automated home theatre.

“We strive to create a smarter living environment for all our clients,” said Robert Urpis, General Manager Argus Technologies.

“The Mount Eliza home’s electrical architecture and system programming has been designed and engineered in such a way it allows the home to grow with the owners’ changing needs into the future,” he said.

- Installing large, heavy light fittings on a 20 meter high pole on a windy day and ensuring that fresh produce looked appealing in the new lighting were challenges that **Next Generation Electrical, Richmond** took on in their project to upgrade 3,350 light fittings at Melbourne Markets to energy-efficient LED lighting.

Since the project began in October 2018, the Melbourne Markets Authority has saved over 850 tonnes of greenhouse gases – that’s equal to driving a car almost 600,000 klms or planting over 12,000 trees.

“We worked extensively with the stallholders to ensure the lighting displayed their produce in a flattering way,” said Pete Summers, CEO Next Generation Electrical.

“Our proudest moment was delivering the project two weeks early with zero incidents on

site,” he said.

- **Nilsen (Vic), Heidelberg West** took out two awards this year, the first for their Austin Hospital high voltage and generation project, upgrading the electrical systems and back-up generators.

“Working in the live environment of the Austin Hospital was a great responsibility, everything we did was geared towards ensuring the complex never lost electrical power because of our work,” said Rob Selymes, General Manager Nilsen (Vic).

Nilsen’s second win was for their work on the NEXTDC Tullamarine data centre installing highly sophisticated technology in a compressed time frame alongside the building works.

“In several of the categories, the excellence of the projects across all criteria made it very difficult to select a winner, with one point separating first second and third in several categories” said Smith,

All the winners of the 2018 NECA Victoria 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 Victoria Excellence Award Winners

Category	Winner	Project
Domestic Residence	Argus Technologies Pty Ltd	Private residence ‘smart home’ Mount Eliza
Energy Efficiency & Environment	Next Generational Electrical	Melbourne Market Authority LED lighting upgrade
Industrial Small	Precept Services Pty Ltd	Holum Concrete plant upgrade, Footscray
Industrial Medium	Gordon McKay Pty Ltd	Boral Deer Park quarry replacement crushing facility
Commercial Small	A.D. McCulloch Pty Ltd	NEP Andrews Hub, Southbank
Commercial Medium	Nilsen (Vic) Pty Ltd	NEXT DC Tullamarine data centre
Commercial Large	Nilsen (Vic) Pty Ltd	Austin Hospital, high voltage and generation project, Heidelberg
Voice/Data Communications & Audio-Visual	Fredon Electrical (Vic)	RAAF Pilot Training School East Sale, data and communications infrastructure and services
Lighting	Next Generation Electrical	Melbourne Market Authority LED lighting upgrade
WH&S Management System (Project)	Fredon Electrical	RAAF Pilot Training School East Sale, data and communications infrastructure and services
WH&S Management System (Company)	Decon Corporation	Home Safety Policy
Small Contracting Business	Australian Technical Services Pty Ltd	MBS Replacement Grimwade Campus

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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.*