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Tasmanian Government Media Release

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Trade

Recognising Tasmania's top exporters

The Tasmanian Liberal Government is delivering an economy that supports and encourages Tasmanian businesses to produce world-class products and seek out export opportunities.

Nominations for the Tasmanian Export Awards 2021 are now open and complement the recent news that Tasmania recorded its largest ever international merchandise trade for a 12-month period.

The preliminary ABS exports data for the year to May 2021 found that Tasmanian exports hit a record \$3.802 billion compared to the previous 12-month record high of \$3.798 billion.

The Tasmanian Export Awards are the State's highest recognition of excellence for businesses currently exporting goods and services.

This year the event will particularly celebrate local exporters who have embraced new technology, developed new products, or expanded into new markets in response to COVID-19.

The awards bring together Tasmania's top exporting businesses, innovative emerging exporters, key industry stakeholders and senior government representatives.

The awards program plays a key role in the development and enhancement of export culture in Tasmania.

This year's awards feature 13 national categories and two state-based categories.

State winners in the national categories will go on to be finalists at the National Export Awards in Canberra as well as join a list of previous Tasmanian winners who have exhibited resilience, persistence, and innovation in their businesses.

All Tasmanian exporters are encouraged to enter with nominations closing on August 6. Eligible businesses can apply for a one-off grant to support their application.

For more information and to enter go to: <u>trade@stategrowth.tas.gov.au</u>