

THE 2019 SWEDISH BUSINESS IN AUSTRALIA AWARDS EVENT



An evening to remember.... especially for the finalists and eventual category winners at the SACC Annual Business Awards Event 28 November 2019. Four inspirational companies - newcomers as well as established - won the Awards, showcasing the successful Sweden-Australia business connection.

As per tradition, the annual awards ceremony took place at the Chamber's popular Christmas dinner at the Four Seasons Hotel in Sydney. This year's event was fully booked, with over 165 people attending. Participants at the event were Australian, Swedish and international members and guests. Special guests *HE Mr Henrik Cederin, Ambassador of Sweden to Australia & Mrs Alexandra Cederin* were present together with *Honorary Consul of Sweden, James Letherbarrow, Trade Commissioner Martin Ekberg, guest speaker Michael Kim and Karen Lawson from Spotify*. The awards were presented by *SACC Board Member Linnéa Mitchell Taverner* and MC for the evening was *Camilla Jennings, SACC*.



HE Henrik Cederin Ambassador of Sweden to Australia

Before the program of the evening started lights were turned off and all enjoyed the enticing Lucia procession presented by students and teachers from the Swedish School in Sydney. An introduction film clip by the newly appointed *President of the Chamber, Jan Gardberg* was presented followed by a welcome speech by *Ambassador Henrik Cederin*. Guests were welcomed to the sumptuous Swedish Christmas buffet and the customary Aquavit and snaps songs to go with it.

Guest speaker, *Michael Kim*, gave us an insight to Spotify globally and some impressive figures about the Australian market with 9.6 million Spotify users every month and an average of 2.6 hours a day spent on Spotify. Michael also touched upon their generous parental leave policy and joint efforts together with SACC within the Advancing Parental Leave Equality Network.

Participating sponsors included Volvo Bus Australia, Volvo Group Australia, Alfa Laval, Alimak Group, Clinch Long Woodbridge Lawyers and Husqvarna. Other event sponsors were ABB, Tetra Pak, Constant Security Services, Candy People, DB Schenker and 22 Christmas raffle sponsors.



The awards are run on a non-profit basis and promote Swedish related business activities in Australia as well as recognising organisations and individuals that help give Swedish business in Australia a positive profile.

The entries for this year’s awards according to the jury panel were of very high and equal quality, which made the evaluation process very hard but after careful screening of the different nominations the result within the four different categories was decided and presented as follows.



Excellence in Business Enterprise



The first award to be presented was the Excellence in Business Enterprise. Here we highlight businesses or organisations that have achieved outstanding results through initiatives that demonstrate excellence in business management, a significant project, implementing progressive sustainability strategy, innovative campaign or product, marketing/branding or a new enterprise launch.

power, heavy electrical equipment and automation technology areas.

The **Excellence in Business Enterprise** award was granted to **ABB** a multinational corporation, operating mainly in robotics,

ABB has been operating in Australia since 1934 and ABB now has 1300 employees. ABB Australia won the Adelaide Metro contract to upgrade the propulsion systems within its fleet of 70 railcars to improve energy efficiency, reliability and passenger comfort. The project was successfully completed in Jan 2019 and added a total of over 21,000 hours of engineering, installation, testing and commissioning



Linnéa Mitchell Taverner SACC Board, Niclas Westling Vice President of SACC, Martin Ekberg Trade Commissioner, John Rieusset ABB & HE Henrik Cederin Ambassador of Sweden to Australia.

activities to the local industry of South Australia. ABB won the State/Local Government Project of the Year category of the 2019 Project Management Institute Australia Awards.

“This project has engaged and contributed to the local community, local companies and suppliers with new job opportunities and a better environment. Supporting the City of Adelaide’s goal towards becoming carbon neutral in 2025.”

Excellence in Sustainability

The **Excellence in Sustainability** award recognises organisations that execute initiatives that demonstrate leadership and commitment to sustainable business practices in planning, operations, marketing and/or in line with the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) to achieve a sustainable future. We encouraged businesses of all sizes and sectors that go above and beyond to achieve any of the SDG's, to reduce the impact of their operations on the environment and/or provide products and services that have positive environmental outcomes. As many Swedish organisations are quite advanced in this area it was particularly hard for the jury to select a winner within this category. As result two companies were awarded the **Excellence in Sustainability, IKEA & Tetra Pak** with the following motivations.



IKEA has an impressive sustainability policy and are committed to making a difference across a wide range of sustainability issues. "The circular economy standards set by IKEA are high and is undoubtedly raising the bar for global and local corporations as a result. IKEA has shown an ambitious approach in contributing to the SDG goals, with practical examples implemented world-wide and reflected in daily activities in all areas of the business. One of their latest initiatives is the buy-back program, which gives furniture a second life to facilitate valuation of the furniture and then sell it on display, with no margin added in between. "



Linnéa Mitchell Taverner SACC Board, Melissa Miller IKEA, Andrew Pooch Tetra Pak, Martin Ekberg Trade Commissioner, Niclas Westling Vice President of SACC & HE Henrik Cederin Ambassador of Sweden to Australia.

Tetra Pak help businesses raise industry standards through sustainable innovations. Tetra Pak has committed €80M to invest in the development of sustainable products to replace fossil-fuel based plastics between 2019 to 2021.

JUST Water in a Tetra Top carton bottle is a great example of their sustainability mission. It is the first carton bottle for water launched in Australia. "This refillable carton packed water is a big environmental step forward in an industry where plastic bottles have dominated for decades. This is an extensive contribution to help reduce our dependence on fossil-fuel based plastic that is filling up our oceans and to a circular economy which will definitely change consumers' behavior when purchasing water."



Excellence in Innovation

The **Excellence in Innovation** award recognises businesses that have made significant contributions to their industry through the introduction, improvement and implementation of an innovative solution or idea, a method, technology, process or application, new, existing or long-term.

The finalists within this category were Elekta and Tagflix with **Elekta** elected the winner of the **Excellence in Innovation** award.



For almost five decades, Elekta has been a leader in precision radiation medicine. Elekta Unity is a revolutionary high-field MR-linac that is ushering radiation therapy into the era of personalised, precision cancer care. Elekta Unity is truly leading-edge



Linnéa Mitchell Taverner SACC Board, Martin Ekberg Trade Commissioner, Niclas Westling Vice President of SACC, Shaun Seery Elekta & HE Henrik Cederin Ambassador of Sweden to Australia.

because it overcomes the technical barriers that have hindered the integration of precision radiation therapy with real-time high-field magnetic resonance imaging.

“Elekta’s innovative technology is revolutionary and has already left a large footprint in the industry and will continue to do so for all the affected patients, their families and the people who are involved with their treatment. This has brought further awareness and appreciation of Swedish Healthcare and Medical Research expertise.”



Linnéa Mitchell Taverner SACC Board, HE Henrik Cederin Ambassador of Sweden to Australia, Camilla Bullock and John Ryan Suite2Go, Martin Ekberg Trade Commissioner & Niclas Westling Vice President of SACC.

Excellence in Small Business

The **Excellence in Small Business** award recognises a business that has attained significant growth and is able to demonstrate the specific strategies and processes implemented to achieve sustainable growth in the last year.

Within the small business category four finalists were presented: ANNACARIN Design, Connected IoT, E3 Health/Pjama Down Under and Suite2Go. This year the **Excellence in Small Business** award was secured by **Suite2Go**.



Camilla Bullock Suite2Go, Martin Ekberg Trade Commissioner, Niclas Westling Vice President of SACC & John Ryan Suite2Go

Suite2Go assists world leading Fintech organisations in achieving success in the Australasian market. They are the go-to source for organisations who requires world leading innovative Fintech solutions to capture opportunities and reduce risk.

Suite2Go was established in 2017 and has in this calendar year increased its revenue by 300%, which exceeds the target of 100% growth p.a. "The business concept of creating a "broker" or "go-between" for FinTech solutions offered to the Financial Services industry is a great one. There is so much innovation in this industry, with many small companies having good ideas, but struggling to find customers. Likewise, large financial institutions cannot keep track of all the new offerings from FinTech companies. The early success of Suite2Go, the positive feedback and the encouraging results to date suggests that a successful business in this cutting-edge technology space is being born."



The awards presentation ended with a closing remark by Trade Commissioner Martin Ekberg, Business Sweden,

who highlighted Australia as one of our most important export markets - Australia being Sweden's 4th largest trading partner outside the EU. Furthermore Martin mentioned the process of updating the Swedish Business Climate report which was made in 2015. The Business Climate Survey is an appreciated tool used by Team Sweden in Australia (the Embassy of Sweden, Business Sweden & the Swedish Australian Chamber of Commerce) to map out the opportunities and challenges Swedish companies face when doing business in Australia. The result of the survey will support Team Sweden to:

- Gain knowledge on Swedish firms view of the Australian market.
- Ensure that Team Sweden in Australia can support you in the best possible way.
- Position Sweden and Swedish companies globally and in Australia.

The SACC would like to thank members and guests and every one engaged in the 2019 Business Awards ceremony. Special thanks goes to the dedicated judges and all companies who participated in the awards this year and we encourage companies and individuals to enter for the 2020 awards.

For more information please contact:
sacc@swedishchamber.com.au
www.swedishchamber.com.au
[LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

