

FOR RELEASE
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Queensland AIIA iAwards showcases outstanding Australian technology innovations

Australia's peak industry representative body for innovation technology, the Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) is proud to announce the Queensland winners of the 2020 iAwards. The awards unearth, recognise and reward excellence in Australian innovation.

The iAwards are Australia's longest running and most broadly scoped innovation recognition program, promoting excellence in the Australian digital technology ecosystem.

The 27th annual ceremony recognising the Queensland entrants took place on 14 October at its first ever fully virtual award ceremony. The process for the iAwards changed significantly in 2020, with entrants submitting a three-minute pitch along with their submission, for what was called "The BIGGEST Pitch". They demonstrated the incredible ways that businesses, government departments, startups and not-for-profit organisations have adapted to a COVID-19 world.

AIIA CEO, Ron Gauci, said: "The calibre of entrants we saw this year was astonishing. We are proud to recognise all our entrants, and in particular, the winners as they are a demonstration of companies who are making a difference in the world and have the potential to create positive change for the community – whether this be at home, in the office or on a global scale. The competition once again, has showcased the innovation technology talent Australia has to offer. With entrants of this calibre, the Australian economy has a bright future.

"Australians have faced many challenges in 2020 but with that comes the opportunity for more innovation and digital transformation as it paves the way to Australia's economic recovery. There is a need for strong domestic skills and an innovation ecosystem which will allow Australia to compete more competitively on the global scale. Combined with the investments in digital infrastructure and capability and the changes made to R&DTI by the Commonwealth Government in its budget recently, there is a real opportunity right now for innovators in this country. We believe our winners are reflective of what Australia has to offer to the world," Mr Gauci said.

The Queensland iAwards are presented in four categories to showcase the breadth of innovation and technology across multiple sectors.

The Queensland AIIA iAwards winners for 2020 by Category are:

- **Government** - [PaintCloud](#), a solution that enables the overlay of real-world colours to lidar based 3D maps of the world.
- **Education** - Auslan Gesture Translator has been developed by three Year 11 students at Emmanuel College, is a device in the form of a glove that translates Australian sign language (Auslan) to text.

- **Start-Ups** - [BotVision](#) uses AI and document analysis technology to convert hand-written whiteboard sketches of business processes to a functioning software application prototype in one meeting
- **Industry Solutions** - [Imprint](#) which assists to identify one of the main causes of persistent pain; impairments in sensory processing in the nervous system.

Details on each of our winners can be found below.

Each of the Queensland Winners will now compete for the coveted National iAwards title which will be announced at the Gala virtual event on 17 November. The AIIA iAwards are supported by the New South Wales Government, NBN Co, Dell, ServiceNow, Civica and The University of Queensland. The AIIA thanks them for their commitment to supporting the tech sector.

AIIA is a not-for-profit organisation aimed at supporting and advocating for Australia's future social and economic prosperity through technology innovation.

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AIIA Queensland iAwards - About the Winners

Government Category Winner - PaintCloud

PaintCloud is a solution that enables the overlay of real-world colours to lidar based 3D maps of the world. Using lidar only, the maps are colourless. PaintCloud uses a camera to allow mobile 3D mapping and surveying businesses to add colour to their accurate geometric maps without needing to upgrade their expensive 3D mapping equipment. Users simply attach an arbitrary camera (e.g. a GoPro) to their existing equipment and PaintCloud's state-of-the-art algorithms are able to augment geometry with colour.

The addition of colour enables users to extract more value from a 3D map. Consider a 3D+PaintCloud scan of a commercial building under construction. What colour paint is used in the main office? Has grass been laid at the building entrance? What does the tile pattern look like in the lobby? Users can see the answers to these questions by simply navigating within a 3D map augmented with colour. This enriched representation is paramount for the understanding of point clouds in a number of application scenarios, including mining, construction, manufacturing, surveying, agriculture and heritage building analysis.

Education Category Winner - Auslan Gesture Translator

Around 1 in 6 Australians suffer from severe to total hearing loss; affecting the individual's ability to communicate with the general community. Exclusion from normal day-to-day communication can have a significant impact on everyday life; causing feelings of loneliness, isolation, and frustration, particularly among older people.

The Auslan Gesture Translator is a device in the form of a glove that translates Australian sign language (Auslan) to text. This solution enables hearing impaired Australians to easily communicate on-the-go with those who do not understand sign language, meaning that a human translator is not required in these situations. Developing this one-of-a-kind device and introducing it into the Australian market would make it the first product of its kind available.

Start-Ups Category Winner - BotVision

BotVision's world-first solution uses novel artificial intelligence and document analysis technology to convert hand-written whiteboard sketches of business processes to a functioning software application prototype in one meeting, without writing a line of code. BotVision will transform the software engineering industry to enable agile, cost-effective, customised enterprise and SME software solutions.

Industry Solutions Category Winner - Imprint

Persistent pain affects 1 in 5 people and is difficult to treat because its causes are usually invisible, and few reliable tests can diagnose contributing factors. This makes choosing the best treatment difficult and prone to error. The Imprint Tactile Acuity Device (iTAD) assists to identify one of the main causes of persistent pain; impairments in sensory processing in the nervous system.

The iTAD involves original hardware and software solutions. The custom printed circuit board is engineered to precisely control the timing, location, and intensity of the vibrotactile stimulation nodes in our custom wearable device. The custom iTAD tablet software, provides a gamified interface, provides feedback, progresses the difficulty, and calculates sensory function scores that can be uploaded to the cloud for access by the treating clinician.

About AIIA

The Australian Information Industry Association (AIIA) is Australia's peak representative body and advocacy group for those in the digital ecosystem. Since 1978 AIIA has pursued activities to stimulate and grow the digital ecosystem, to create a favourable business environment for members and to contribute to Australia's economic prosperity. We do this by delivering outstanding member value by providing a strong voice of influence; building a sense of community through events and education; enabling a network for collaboration and inspiration; and developing compelling content and relevant and interesting information.