




Speech By  
**Hon. Tim Nicholls**

**MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD**

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**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Robinson, Mr N**

 **Hon. TJ NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Treasurer and Minister for Trade) (9.40 am): Queensland's construction and built environment industry continues to be recognised internationally, thanks to the dedicated efforts of a group of exporters working tirelessly to sell our state's expert services globally. It is always pleasing to see these efforts acknowledged. That is why it gives me particular pleasure to report to the House that one such exporter, Queensland architect Noel Robinson, has received nationwide recognition of the work that he does by being awarded a coveted Australian export heroes award.

Export Heroes Awards, awarded annually and administered by the Export Council of Australia, are given to individuals because of their commitment, passion and extraordinary contribution to the growth of exports and the development of a uniquely Australian export culture. Noel Robinson is a Queensland local, a former resident of the great electorate of Clayfield and a Queensland University of Technology alumnus who plied his skills locally before taking them global.

With over 40 years experience, Noel has had a distinguished career, delivering his brand of innovative and original design to the Middle East, South-East Asia, Japan, Korea, the United States and Europe. His contribution to the world's skylines includes the Tilal Complex in Muscat, Oman; the Dubai Investment Park; the Monarch Beach Masterplan in Los Angeles; and Suva's Grand Pacific Hotel in Fiji. A testament to his continuing success is the fact that he maintains offices in Auckland, New Zealand; Shenzhen, China; Muscat, Oman; and locally in Melbourne, Noosa and right here in Brisbane employing 50 people. One of Noel's recent successes is the 32-storey, 246-room Sheraton Brisbane Four Points hotel, fronting 99-103 Mary Street. The new hotel, which was announced late last year, is expected to be open for business by January 2014.

Noel was presented with his export heroes award last week at a ceremony at Melbourne's Government House. As the Minister for Trade I want to congratulate him on his achievement and thank him for his tireless contribution to building trade relationships for the state of Queensland.

Noel Robinson joins a growing list of export heroes including fellow Queensland recipients John Russell of Toowoomba company Russell Mineral Equipment; Paul Henry from Populous, the architects; and Neil O'Sullivan from last year's Queensland exporter of the year, NOJA Power; as well as fellow Australians the Wiggles; Wolfgang Blass of Wolf Blass Wines; and former Deputy Prime Minister and trade minister the Hon. Doug Anthony.

Noel Robinson joins a remarkable group of people who tirelessly fly the Australian flag with pride at the international level, contributing to both our economy and our global reputation. He is a fine example of the innovative nature of Queensland's many exporters, and I thank him for his commitment to making this great state one of great opportunity.