




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

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MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Premier of Queensland Export Awards

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (2.08 pm): Last week, I was honoured to announce that Narangba based kangaroo leather processor Packer Leather, founded in 1891, had been chosen as Queensland's Exporter of the Year. The Premier of Queensland's Export Awards, now in its 26th year, acknowledge the important contribution that Queensland's exporting businesses make to our state's economy through the jobs they create and the increased prosperity they generate. Our exporters make a huge contribution to Queensland's economy, with goods exports of more than \$47 billion and service exports of about \$10 billion. In fact, one in five Queensland jobs is supported by exports.

Queensland exporters are special people who know how to adapt to changing times and to keep finding new opportunities in both traditional and emerging market sectors. For example, Creative Industries Award winner, Alt.vfx, is a state-of-the-art film and television post-production and visual effects company that was established in 2011 and has quickly become one of the most respected and highly awarded visual effects studios in Australia. Small Business winner Evolve Skateboards' creator, Jeff Anning, identified a gap in the market and created motorised skateboards, which sold out on their first run in July 2014.

It is important that we recognise the international success of Queensland exporters not only to celebrate their achievements but also to inspire others to look at overseas markets. Through these awards we are sending a very strong, very clear message to the world that Queensland is Australia's foremost location for trade and investment.

My government's \$180 million Advance Queensland program will help harness our intellectual excellence and create the world-beating exporters of the future without neglecting the remarkable performance over many years of our traditional exporting sectors. I would like to again congratulate all of the winners and finalists of the 2015 Premier of Queensland Export Awards and also thank my deputy, Jackie Trad, who also attended. It was indeed a remarkable night.