

# MEDIA RELEASE

## Celebrating the best of Australian business in Singapore

The annual Australian Chamber of Commerce Singapore (AustCham) business awards were presented at a lunch today featuring signature Australian produce cooked by a team of internationally acclaimed Australian chefs, attended by over 250 leaders of the business community in Singapore.

AustCham President Ian Cummin said the awards recognise excellence in Australian business in Singapore and the strength of the Australia Singapore relationship.

“These awards are a chance to highlight and celebrate the success of not just big Australian businesses, but also to recognise the importance of start ups and the entrepreneurial culture to the business landscape,” he said.

“This year we had a strong field of nominees to consider and I think that shows the strength of the Australian business community here in Singapore. It also reflects the relationship between our two countries which has gone from strength to strength particularly over the last few years following the signing of the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership”.

Mr Cummin congratulated each of the award winners for 2018:

AustCham President’s Award, awarded to an individual or association who has made a significant contribution to the Australian and Singaporean business community, or to the relationship between Australia and Singapore, or who has substantially facilitated investment or trade between our two countries. **2018 winner: Dale Anderson, James Cook University, Singapore**

For the past 12 years Dr Anderson has led the growth of the Singapore Campus of James Cook University. James Cook University Singapore is now recognised as a market leader in the provision of tertiary studies in Singapore, business excellence, and educational quality. In 2012 the University was awarded the AustCham Singapore Business Excellence award and is the only foreign educational institution in Singapore authorized to call itself a university.

The Singapore campus of the University has grown to now enrol around 4,000 students. Through its Inter-campus Mobility Program they contribute to a cultural exchange that strengthens relations between Australia and Singapore.

Dale is a fellow of the Australian College of Educators and a fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is the First Vice President of the Singapore Association of Private Education, a member of the Education Committee and the ASEAN Committee of the Singapore International Chamber of Commerce and a member of the Singapore Management Committee of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. He is also a member of the Board of Advisors of Australian Alumni Singapore.

Commonwealth Bank of Australia Business Alliance Award, Awarded to the Singaporean company which has demonstrated a significant commitment to Australian trade and investment. **2018 winner: ARA**

**Asset Management Limited**

ARA Asset Management Limited is a premier global integrated real assets fund manager. As at 1 June 2018, the Gross Assets Managed by ARA Group and its Associates is S\$77.2 billion across 62 cities in 20 countries. Its multi-platform, multi-product global fund management strategy, combined with its dedicated teams with in-depth local knowledge, enables the Group to offer enduring value to its investors. Built on a foundation of strong corporate governance and business integrity, ARA counts some of the world's largest pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, financial institutions, endowments and family offices as its investors.

ARA established its Australia platform in 2015. It recently completed the acquisition of a 19.5% stake in Cromwell Property Group. With this, ARA Group and its Associates currently have approximately S\$7 billion assets under management in Australia. As part of the Group's investor-operator philosophy, ARA Australia provides the full range of investment and asset and property management services focused on delivering consistent and superior returns for its investors.

GEMS World Academy Entrepreneur Award, recognising a person/company who has successfully established their own business in Singapore. **2018 winner: Gemma Manning, Gemstar technology**  
Gemma is an Australian female entrepreneur, and by 'trade', a strategic marketing and communications professional. She has established two businesses over the last several years including Gemstar Technologies & Manning and Co.

Gemma started her first business, Manning & Co, a full-service strategic marketing consultancy in 2008 and has been responsible for the fast growth of the company ever since. Manning & Co, has evolved to being a full service consultancy providing a range of services from strategy, thought leadership and content marketing, creative design, digital, development and videography.

Gemstar is the go-to-market access and commercial partner for many Australian businesses including tech start-ups and innovators who are wanting to expand into ASEAN. Through the Innovation Centre of Excellence in Singapore, Gemstar help Australian businesses access and understand the ASEAN markets and determine whether they are market ready. Through end-to-end service offering, businesses are then assisted to immerse themselves into the region, meet strategic investors, partners and customers as well have an immediate address and presence through our Centre. Gemma also runs a number of other programs including a Young Entrepreneurs Program, YoungGems.

James Cook University Business Excellence Award, for the organisation which has demonstrated the most outstanding performance in its field. **2018 winner: Lendlease Asia Holdings**

Lendlease began its operations in Asia through Singapore since 1973, with its first project in partnership with a local company to deliver 30 blocks of Housing Development Board flats – public housing flats home to more than 80% of Singaporeans.

For the last 45 years, Lendlease has rapidly expanded over the years and have completed circa 400 projects in Singapore across various sectors including commercial, retail, life sciences and education. Lendlease has been managing three shopping malls under its belt across Singapore – Parkway Parade, Jem and 313@somerset, which have become popular household names in Singapore.

With urban regeneration as a key strategy for the Asia business, Lendlease is currently developing a A\$3.2 billion mixed-use development, Paya Lebar Quarter in Singapore, a key catalyst to Urban Redevelopment Authority's masterplan to transform Paya Lebar into Singapore's newest business hub.

Lendlease has been in close collaboration with various government bodies to champion safety initiatives and innovation over the years. Recognition from government bodies through our repeat wins

of bizSAFE and Workplace Safety and Health awards is testament to our steadfast commitment and safety and health excellence. Lendlease has also been a leader in sustainability in Singapore, having obtained many 'firsts' in the Green mark ratings – similar to the Australian Green Star.

Australian Trade and Investment Commission Innovation Award, for the individual or organisation that has demonstrated innovation through bringing progressive and new ideas to business in priority sectors.

**2018 winner: Gilmour Space Technologies**

**Gilmour Space Technologies** ([www.gspacetechnology.com](http://www.gspacetechnology.com)) is a leading rocket company in Australia and Singapore that has made significant progress in its mission to provide low-cost launches to the global small satellite industry. Their sweet spot: payloads of up to 400 kg to low earth orbit; with commercial launches from 2020.

Unlike most commercial rockets, which use solid- or liquid-fuelled engines, Gilmour Space is pioneering a cheaper, safer and greener hybrid rocket engine that has been demonstrated to overcome long-standing performance issues with hybrid rockets. In June, it conducted a successful 12-second engine test-fire, which generated 75 kilonewtons (or 16,900 pounds) of thrust - possibly the world's largest successful test of a single-port hybrid rocket engine.

Gilmour Space was also one of the first private enterprises in Australia and Singapore to sign a Space Act Agreement with NASA. The company is currently scaling up for its second suborbital test flight later this year, and is in the midst of raising its Series-B round of investments.

Note: AustCham is the peak body representing Australian business in Singapore. With over 700 individual and 500 company members, AustCham is one of the largest Australian business chambers in Asia.