

Media Announcement: 23 November, 2016



Hofmann Engineering and Vantaz Australia win Australia Latin America Business Excellence Awards 2016

The Awards were introduced in 2002 by the **Australia-Latin America Business Council** (ALABC - www.alabc.com.au) and the **Council on Australia Latin America Relations** (COALAR - www.dfat.gov.au/coalar/). Since then, the Awards have continued as an annual event, with COALAR as the exclusive sponsor.

The 2016 Awards were presented at the ALABC Sydney Dinner held at the Amora Jamison Hotel on Tuesday, November 22. In the presence of 150 guests, the Awards were presented by His Excellency, General the Honourable Sir Peter Cosgrove AK MC (Retd), Governor General of Australia.

The 2016 Awards attracted a very high calibre of applications. The ALABC Committee overseeing the Awards program considers that, in the current economic climate, the breadth and nature of the applications highlights the growing diversity of the business opportunities in the region.



The winners of the 2016 Awards were:

In the "Large Company" category: **Hofmann Engineering Pty Limited**



Hofmann Engineering (www.hofmannengineering.com) was founded by brothers, John and Erich Hofmann, in Perth in 1969 and today remains a family-owned and run company.

The wide variety of precision mining equipment manufactured or refurbished by Hofmann Engineering is sought after by companies throughout Australia and the world.

The company has one of the largest privately-owned engineering facilities in Australia and employs over 600 people world-wide, through its primary facility in Perth and three facilities on the east coast of Australia (Bendigo, Melbourne & Newcastle), as well as facilities in Canada (to service the North American market) and Chile & Peru (to service the South American market).



The Award was accepted on behalf of Hofmann Engineering by its Chief Executive Officer, Stephan Kirsch, who is pictured above, receiving the Award from the Governor General of Australia.

In the “Medium Company” category: **Vantaz Australia Pty Limited**



Vantaz Australia is the local arm of the Vantaz Group (www.vantaz.com), a global consulting company that was founded in 2000 by a group of talented consultants who wanted to bridge a niche gap in consulting services within the Chilean and greater Latin American markets.

Headquartered in Santiago, Chile, Vantaz offers a diverse range of services to the global mining industry. These include, strategic consulting in areas such as productivity improvements, organisational change, cost rationalisation and growth strategy. One of Vantaz’s unique offering is around the design and implementation of Shared Service Centres for large corporations. The company complements its strategic advice with practical IT and Operational Technology consulting and project implementations, low cost outsourcing of transactional services (commodity procurement, document management, IT services etc) and technology enabled product



representations in areas of importance to mining such as HSE, real time monitoring, mining systems and data analytics.

Vantaz’s international expansion commenced in 2007, when the company’s then multinational clients in Chile demanded support services in other markets. After expanding first into the northern Chilean city of Antofagasta, Vantaz then moved into Peru and Australia, through the establishment of local offices staffed by existing partners, who first travelled to these offices and then settled there.

Today, Vantaz has a team of over 65 qualified consultants in based in Australia, Chile and Peru.

The Award was accepted on behalf of Vantaz by its co-founder and resident Australian partner, Mauro Mezzano, who is pictured at left, receiving the Award from the Governor General of Australia.

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For further information, please contact:
 Mya Bilbao (Secretariat Manager, ALABC)
 Tel: +61 2 9431 8651
 Email: secretariat@alabc.com.au