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Siemens wins at the 2018 National Australian Training Awards

Siemens won the *2018 Apprenticeships – Employer Award* for the Industry 4.0 Apprenticeship program at the 2018 National Australian Training Awards held in Sydney. The award was given in recognition of the first-of-its-kind digital apprenticeship, launched by Siemens in collaboration with Swinburne University of Technology and the Australian Industry Group (Ai Group), to train apprentices on digital skills needed in future.

Recognising individuals, employers and training providers demonstrating excellence in vocational education and training (VET), winners were awarded by Senator Michaelia Cash, Minister for Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education.

“This is an incredible honour and a privilege for Siemens. When we started the program two years ago, we had no clear job descriptions for the apprentices, but were determined to collaborate and equip them with the right digital skills for the future. While the awards are great recognition of our combined efforts, we’re particularly proud of giving the first batch of 20 apprentices pathways to work in Australia and globally. The outcomes are evident as we are already seeing real skills for real careers with this unique and innovative program,” said Siemens’ Australia CEO and Chairman, Jeff Connolly.

The program is unique in that it combines rotations of classroom-based theoretical learning at Swinburne University and then practical on-the-job application of learning to projects at Siemens. All apprentices were given exposure to digital technologies such as cyber security and cloud services, smart product design, predictive analysis, robotics and digital twin, augmented reality, advanced electrical machines and software tools for Industry 4.0. The apprentices are also amongst the first group of people to work on new global systems such as MindSphere, Siemens’ cloud platform for Industrial Internet of Things applications.

Speaking about how the program fits into Siemens' strategy for the region, Jeff added, "We see Industry 4.0 as a framework for societal transformation. Given the rapid pace of change owing to technological disruption, the preparation for the future of work, skills and education cannot just be left to education institutions alone. Industry needs to collaborate with academia and governments to support this progress.

"In addition to the apprenticeship program, our strategic initiatives to build Industry 4.0 capabilities across Australia include hi-tech Siemens software grants to select universities to give students access to the same tools as our experts worldwide and supporting the establishment of Industry 4.0 test laboratories to help SME's gain experience in this technology."

This is the third award and fifth nomination for the apprenticeship program.

The program is currently working with the second intake of apprentices.

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Siemens AG (Berlin and Munich) is a global technology powerhouse that has stood for engineering excellence, innovation, quality, reliability and internationality for more than 170 years. The company is active around the globe, focusing on the areas of electrification, automation and digitalization. One of the largest producers of energy-efficient, resource-saving technologies, Siemens is a leading supplier of efficient power generation and power transmission solutions and a pioneer in infrastructure solutions as well as automation, drive and software solutions for industry. With its publicly listed subsidiary Siemens Healthineers AG, the company is also a leading provider of medical imaging equipment – such as computed tomography and magnetic resonance imaging systems – and a leader in laboratory diagnostics as well as clinical IT. In fiscal 2018, which ended on September 30, 2018, Siemens generated revenue of €83.0 billion and net income of €6.1 billion. At the end of September 2018, the company had around 379,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at www.siemens.com.