

Media Release:

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**Winners of the 2006
Australia-Latin America Awards**

In the presence of 250 guests drawn from throughout Australia, The Hon. Teresa Gambaro MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, on Friday, October 13, presented the 2006 Australia-Latin America Awards at a gala dinner held at the Rydges Jamison Hotel in Sydney.

The Awards were introduced in 2002 by the **Australia-Latin America Business Council (ALABC)** and the **Council of Australia Latin America Relations (COALAR)** and are an annual event. More information on the activities of both Councils can be found at the website www.alabc.com.au.

The winners of the 2006 Awards were:

Export Award

Commendations were issued to: **Ludowici MPE Pty Limited**
Mincom Limited
NOJA Power Switchgear Pty Limited

For the first time since the Awards were introduced, the judging committee elected to present 2 Awards, to reflect the fact that there were 2 equally outstanding submissions from companies of very different sizes.

Awards were made to:

1. Small Business Category: **Lucas Mill Pty Limited**

Lucas Mill is a small company based in Victoria that has developed a portable saw mill which it has successfully exported to markets in South America. It has shown great dedication and perseverance to carve out for itself a niche market in South America.



Accepting the AWARD on behalf of the company was its General Manager, Mr Rex Lucas.

2. Large Corporate Category: **Xstrata Technology**

Xstrata Technology is part of the Xstrata Group and has successfully taken advantage of its in-house operations in Australia and elsewhere to develop and market a number of processes such as Isasmelt - Isa Process - Jameson Cell and others into Latin America and throughout the world.



Accepting the AWARD on behalf of the company were Mr Phil Partington, the IsaSmelt Project Manager; Mr Gerardo Alvear, the IsaSmelt Senior Development Engineer: and Mr Brenton Burford, the Senior Intellectual Property Coordinator.

Education Award

A Commendation was issued to: **University of Queensland**

The Award was made to: **Macquarie University**

Macquarie University is at the forefront of attracting Latin American students to Australia and has developed the relationships, staff expertise and a reputation in the Region that should ensure the long term success of its strategy.



Accepting the AWARD on behalf of the University was Ms Davina Potts, Associate Director of Macquarie Abroad

Innovative or Emerging Exporter Award

A Commendation was issued to: **Runge Limited**

The Award was made to: **GroundProbe**

Groundprobe a highly innovative and dynamic company that develops and supplies its unique measurement systems and services across various industries. Its Slope Stability Radar technology has already achieved outstanding success in the global mining industry. Likewise, the company's Ground Penetrating Radar services are being applied in mining, civil construction and infrastructure industries in Australia and abroad.



Accepting the AWARD on behalf of Groundprobe was Mr Lyle Bruce, the Chief Executive Officer