

Judges Appointed to Find Australia's Best Clean Technology Ideas

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The judges have now been appointed to select Australia's best clean technology idea. Entries for Australian Clean Technology Ideas Competition have been open since the beginning of July and a wide variety of exciting ideas have already been received. Businesses with great ideas for tackling climate change are encouraged to enter this national competition that could see the best idea become a global success.

The Australian competition, linked to the international Cleantech Open Global Ideas Competition, will showcase clean technologies with economic and environmental benefits.

They will help reduce our reliance on carbon and aid energy efficiency by opening up new ways of doing business. The ideas will be part of the process for building the industries of the future and also assisting existing industry to become more efficient, competitive and resilient.

The four judges for the competition are:

- Andrew Pickering, Managing Director of Cleantech Ventures, one of Australia's leading experts in investing into cleantech companies;
- Geoff Hoffman, a Partner at Clayton Utz who is an expert in the financing of cleantech projects and was on the consultative committee involved in the design of the Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme;
- David Clark, a Partner at Phillips Ormonde Fitzpatrick, an expert in intellectual property for cleantech innovation; and
- Paul van Bergen, a Partner at KPMG and a specialist in R&D incentive schemes and in how to commercialise cleantech ideas.

The judges have been selected so that the Ideas are assessed both on their technical merit and their potential to be commercialised. With this group of judges, there is the best chance of finding those opportunities that have the greatest chance of global success.

Water Supplier Advocate, Bob Herbert AM noted "This is an opportunity to show the best in Australian Clean Technology capability to the world. It's a great chance to show innovation in the clean technology arena and compete against other countries and showcase our best ideas."

Business ideas can be for technologies and services that address pollution, waste treatment and energy storage, new ways of looking at energy efficiency, building materials, transportations systems, public utilities and much more.

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“The Competition provides a great opportunity to assist and develop innovative Australian ideas and propel them to the global marketplace”, said Built Environment Supplier Advocate, John Gaskin.

Competition entrants will compete for business services to help make their idea a business reality – be it access to venture capitalists, patent support, legal advice, research support or corporate assurance.

The winner of the Australian competition will represent Australia at the international Cleantech Open Global Ideas Competition in the United States. The Australian winner will share ideas with entrants from 90 countries and compete for over \$100,000 in services to launch their idea. They will also have a week of mentoring, meetings with investors, business services and other entrepreneurs at the International Awards Gala in November 2011.

For more information visit: www.cleantechopen.com.au The Australian competition is an initiative of the Gillard Labor Government’s \$8.2 million Supplier Advocate Program and is supported by Enterprise Connect, Commercialisation Australia, the CSIRO and Austrade. More information is available at www.innovation.gov.au/supplieradvocates.

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