

MEDIA RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**AUSSIE STARTUPS TAKE HOME CASH PRIZES, OVERSEAS TRIPS AND COVETED AWARDS
AT NATIONAL TECH INNOVATION EVENT, TECH23**

SYDNEY, 10 October 2017: The winners of Australia's national celebration of deep tech innovation have been announced, with AI, DNA and education technologies among those taking home awards.

Running for almost a decade, [Tech23](#) is a community-focused event which helps startups make connections with investors, mentors, customers, and more.

The crowd favourite taking home this year's Tech23 People's Choice Award was [Xplor](#), a system to transform the way we approach learning.

The Tech23 Innovation Excellence Award went to [Nucleotrace](#) for their supply chain monitoring and anti-counterfeiting technology, which uses fragments of DNA as a non-toxic molecular fingerprint.

The winner of Tech23's Greatest Potential Award was [Presagen](#) for an AI-driven platform that automates human behaviour and medical diagnostics.

This year Tech23 startups were vying not only for cash prizes but trips to the U.S., China and landing pads in Israel and Germany. Winners of the travel prizes included [Elula](#) - who won a trip to Boston; [Modular Photonics](#) - who won the Austrade Going Global Award and will visit landing pads in Berlin and Tel Aviv; [Presagen](#), who will have lunch with Upguard in California; and [Flurosat](#), who won the China Australia Millennial Project award, a five-day immersion tour through Beijing's innovation ecosystem.

Some of the Tech23 startups also nabbed meetings with influential members of Australia's tech ecosystem. [Pedestal](#) won a lunch with CEO of Smart Sparrow, Dror Ben Naim; [Sofihub](#) will meet

with investor Simon Martin; [Modular Photonics](#) will meet with the founder of eServ, Ian Buddery; [Syntropy](#) scored a meeting with Square Peg Capital; [EpiSoft](#) with Michelle Deaker, Managing Partner of OneVentures; and [Platfarm](#) will meet with Elaine Stead, Head of Blue Sky Venture Capital.

Leading Australian R&D institutions were also on-hand at Tech23's Innovation Island, with representation from CSIRO, Austrade Landing Pads Program, EnergyLab, University of Sydney's Incubate, Macquarie University Incubator, and UTS: Hatchery.

This year's Tech23 companies join a stellar alumni including SmartSparrow, Clevertar, BuildingIQ, Culture Amp, Marathon Targets, Binu, Local Measure, AgriWebb, and Plutora.

Tech23 is sponsored by CSIRO, AWS, IAG, Jobs for NSW, Westpac, Addisons, IP Australia, Cicada Innovations, CMCRC, and supported by Advance, Australian Landing Pads, Business Higher Education Round Table, Communications Alliance, Pearcey Foundation, Springboard Enterprises, and The Warren Centre.

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TECH23 2017 WINNERS

1. [Pedestal](#) - Lunch with Dror Ben Naim, CEO of Smart Sparrow.
2. [Sofihub](#) - meetings with Simon Martin, investor, former CFO of MYOB, CEO of iCareHealth group, and director of Sendle and Milanote.
3. [Modular Photonics](#) - Mentoring with Ian Buddery, founder of eServ, and Chairman of Maestrano.
4. [Syntropy](#) - Meeting with Square Peg Capital.
5. [EpiSoft](#) - Meeting with Michelle Deaker, Managing Partner of OneVentures.
6. [Platfarm](#) - Meeting with Elaine Stead, Head of Blue Sky Venture Capital.
7. [Future Grid](#) - The Agile Australia B2B Enterprise Award.
8. [Syntropy](#) - mentoring session with David Thodey AO, sponsored by Jobs for NSW.
9. [Xplor](#) - The Appbot prize for the Most Promising Mobile App.
10. [Hind Technology](#) - Zambesi Most Progress Award.

11. [Axis Energy](#) - Data61 Commercialisation Potential Award.
12. [Fleet](#) - The Westpac Reinventing Financial Services Award.
13. [Nucleotrace](#) - The Addisons Award for up to \$5000 in legal advice and \$5000 cash.
14. [Sofihub](#) - The Onestack Scale-up Award.
15. [Xplor](#) - The M8 Ventures award for the Most Awesomest Pitch - \$1000 cash.
16. [Nucleotrace](#) - The Deep Technology Award, courtesy of Cicada Innovations - a \$2000 cash prize with complimentary co-working space in the Cicada Innovations Accelerator Hub for two months, and two mentoring sessions.
17. [Fleet](#) - The AMP Amplify \$2500 cash award for best technology startup founded by a woman.
18. [Xplor](#) - CMCRC Market Changing Technologies Award - \$5000 cash prize.
19. [Elula](#) - Innovation in Enterprise Mobility Award sponsored by bigtinca. A trip to Boston for 2 with 2 nights' accommodation and connections to Austrade Boston and Mass Challenge.
20. [Modular Photonics](#) - Austrade Going Global Award. An 8-day visit to Berlin and Tel Aviv hosted by the Australian Landing Pads at Betahaus Berlin and SOSA Tel Aviv, with flights and accommodation thanks to Tech23.
21. [Presagen](#) - Lunch with Upguard in Mountain View, California. Tech23 will also cover up to \$5000 of travel expenses.
22. [Flurosat](#) - The China Australia Millennial Project Award. A 5 day immersion tour through the innovation ecosystem of Beijing. Tech23 is also covering up to \$5000 of travel expenses.
23. [Nucleotrace](#) - Tech23 Innovation Excellence Award.
24. [Presagen](#) - Tech23 Greatest Potential Award.
25. [Xplor](#) - Tech23 People's Choice Award.
26. All [Tech23 companies](#) - Amazon Web Services Award.

View all Tech23 companies for 2017 here: www.tech23.com.au/2017/the-23/.