INNOVATION AWARD

ProTech IT Solutions

Selling ex-display, preowned, refurbished and used laptops, computers and mobile phones, ProTech IT Solutions was established to provide customers with a higher standard of service and better quality products, especially for customers that aren't very technologically inclined, to prevent them from getting unfairly treated by other computer shop retailers and repairers.

Having opened in 2019, ProTech IT Solutions has a strong community focus, providing concession and student discounts as well as single or struggling parent support, where laptops are provided for home education or work from home, starting from very low prices.

With business peaking during the pandemic, ProTech IT Solutions was forced to streamline business processes with work and schooling from home at an all-time high.

Implementing a rigorous sanitation standard, ProTech IT Solutions also took a strong focus on moving business online and delivering to customers, providing customers with delivery within three hours of purchase to metropolitan Melbourne.

By delivering refurbished second hand electronics to Melton residents, ProTech IT Solutions can help those in the region to save money while also receiving their desired device with the same warranty as if it were purchased new.

SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP AWARD

Lady and the Hair

This year, the winner of the Sustainability Leadership Award is hair and beauty business, Lady and the Hair.

Known for their cut, colour, bridal and hair extension services, Lady and the Hair is not only a leader in the industry but also a leader in sustainability in Melton.

Taking great pride in recycling 95 per cent of all salon waste, the business utilises special bins to separate paper, plastic, metal, hair and colour. These bins are then collected by Sustainable Salons Australia on a fortnightly basis. The hair that is cut from clients' heads is made into hair booms that help clean up oil spills, the foil is recycled again into foil, and the profits made from these products are used to feed the homeless through OzHarvest.

Prue Taylor from Lady and the Hair opened the salon in 2010 from her garage at home. Since then, it has grown to a 22-strong team with locations in both Melton and Sunbury.

With many customers that attended Prue's home salon still visiting Lady and the Hair today, customer service is paramount to staff at the salon.

With a strong involvement in the Uniting Church's food bank drive and donating to local schools for raffles, Lady and the Hair is a community-focused business with a great sense of pride to be working in the region.

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