Sponsored by Bendigo Bank

Small Business or Division Department of a Business Award Winner: CABINETS BY COMPUTER

Born in 2002 in the small home office of owner and ex-cabinetmaker Gary, Cabinets by Computer (CBC) was founded to meet the growing need for access to quality software for those working in the cabinet making industry. CBC has grown to a team of 20 employees from a range of countries and diverse backgrounds, developing and selling world class software to cabinet makers, kitchen designers and kitchen manufacturers across Australia and New Zealand.

With the shared passion of providing high quality software solutions to increase the efficiency of joinery design and manufacturing, the judges deemed CBC a worthy winner of this year's Small Business Award.

The judges believe that CBC's strong inbound marketing strategy has been successful in increasing growth, and provides a revolutionary customer service experience within the industry, empowering clients to easily order products online with 24/7 access and real-time quotes on custom cabinet configurations.

With a workforce that is 75 percent Geelong-based, CBC's roots are firmly planted in the Geelong region. Local clients utilise the cloud-based ordering system that permits them to manufacture a fully customised cabinet order on behalf of a smaller cabinet maker, with the order becoming readily available for production within minutes of its submission.

The judges were thoroughly impressed by the experience, passion and knowledge that one man, owner Gary, has used to evolve his business to support others in efficiencies, reduced costs and time.

Further, the judges recognised the great work culture at CBC, with access to a wide range of benefits for staff, as well as ongoing check-ins and clearly defined KPIs and tasks.

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Health and Wellbeing Promoting Workplace Winner: CENTRESTAGE

CentreStage is Victoria's largest amateur musical theatre company, and the judges correlate its success with the proactive and personal drive of the team who have a 'can-do' mindset around their business and service, offering deliverables that incorporate education, musical theatre events, theatrical rentals, and corporate partnerships.

As a part of the Victorian arts community, CentreStage's aim is to create inspiring projects that foster new talent and develop skills. CentreStage has won this award as a result of its genuine intent to protect and nurture the general and mental health and wellbeing of all its stakeholders and members.

The recent purchase of a shipping container to be used as an exclusive mental wellbeing hub for the CentreStage community further contributes to the business's endeavours to support its members and clients.

Meeting the needs of Geelong performers and listening to what excites audiences, CentreStage ensures diversity is encouraged and inclusivity is non-negotiable, welcoming residents of the Greater Geelong community from all walks of life, all ages and all abilities.

The judges were impressed by CentreStage's efforts during the pandemic to keep clients and audiences engaged and connected in the arts, with related activities helping them to be culturally fulfilled and aligned with like-minded people.