



The AUSTRALIAN PRIVATE EQUITY &
VENTURE CAPITAL ASSOCIATION Limited

Media release

20 September 2012

AVCAL 2012 award winners announced

Strictly embargoed - not for publication or broadcast before 20:00 Thursday 20 September

The winners of the 2012 AVCAL Awards were announced at a gala dinner last night for nearly 500 fund managers, domain experts, investors and advisors attending AVCAL's annual 'Alpha' conference.

The winners were:

For Excellence in Investor Reporting, awards were presented to Brandon Capital Partners and CHAMP Ventures.

In recognition of vision, achievement, and entrepreneurship and outstanding returns for an exit in the 2011-2012 financial year:

Best Early Stage Award went to Starfish Ventures for telecomm expense software company, Quickcomm.

Best Expansion Stage Award went to Equity Partners for designer of premium compression sportswear Skins.

Best Management Buyout under \$100 million went to Archer Capital for specialised container lessor, SCF.

Best Management Buyout between \$100-500 million went to Archer Capital for leading sports goods retailer, Rebel Group.

And making it a trifecta, was Archer Capital's win together with co-investor HarbourVest in the **Best Management Buyout over \$500 million** category for software giant MYOB.

Last night also saw the presentation of the inaugural **Michael Hirshorn Award** which honours a PE or VC-backed company whose products or services have been instrumental in doing public good and delivering to the community. The award went to BTF Ltd and was accepted by the company's former CEO, Mark Gauci, and Mike's former business partner, Simon Uziel from Four Hats Capital.

AVCAL, the Australian Private Equity and Venture Capital Association Limited, was established in 1992 as a forum and voice for participants in the private equity and venture capital industry. Membership includes almost all the domestic and international PE and VC fund managers active in Australia. PE and VC are key sources of capital for companies of all sizes, to enable their growth and realise their potential. VC is one of the few sources of capital available to enable entrepreneurs to convert innovative ideas into sustainable enterprises. Australian PE has around \$23.6b under management while VC has around \$2.9b under management. www.avcal.com.au www.twitter.com/avcal1 www.linkedin.com/in/avcal



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AVCAL CEO Dr. Katherine Woodthorpe said the award to BTF recognised the ground-breaking work the company achieved in producing biological controls to deliver safe drinking water. BTF is now owned by bioMerieux France, a world leader in industrial microbiology.

"BTF's science is now helping people right around the globe access safe drinking water so it is a very worthy recipient of this new award.

"It is no exaggeration to say that the Australian biotech industry would be nowhere near its scale today if it hadn't been for Mike, nor too would the VC industry.

"Mike's death deprived us all of a great leader and friend and this annual award will help remind us all of the principles that Mike applied so scrupulously throughout his career," said Dr. Woodthorpe.

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