



## Media Release

# Outstanding wins for the ACT at GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards

**Saturday 22 October 2016**

Outstanding innovation by project teams from the ACT has been rewarded with an impressive swag of prizes at the national and international GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards in Adelaide this weekend.

GovHack National Director, Richard Tubb, said, “creative people from across the ACT greatly impressed the judges with their outstanding ideas for projects that helped unlock the value of open data for everyone in the community.”

Held in July at 40 locations across Australia and New Zealand [GovHack 2016](#) is believed to be the world’s biggest annual government open data hackathon. The 46 hour event attracted over 3,000 participants who formed into teams to transform government open data into apps, visualisations and websites and compete for the prestigious Red Carpet Awards. A record number of data sets (over 170) and data portals (over 40) were made available for the event by a wide range of government agencies.

Award winning projects from the ACT included:

- [Newsexplo.re](#) - An app that helps people understand the background to news stories by combining open data from the ABC, National Library of Australia and IBM Watson - IBM’s question answering computer system.
- [SizzleRig](#) - A website and flame throwing art installation that uses open data from the CSIRO and the ACT Government’s Emergency Services Agency to demonstrate the intensity of recent bushfires.
- [CrashWarning](#) - A smartphone app that warns cyclists when they are in high risk areas for crashes using ACT Government cycling crash data.
- [Walks of life](#) - An app that raises awareness of the health risks people face at different stages of their lives by taking a walk through the life of a virtual character named Sam.
- [Staying the course](#) - Why do students drop out of tertiary education? This visualisation uses open data from the Department of Education and Training to pinpoint the risk factors and the actions needed to help students stay the course.

## Red Carpet Award Results

International major prizes won by teams from the ACT included:

- Google's [Machine Learning Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [newsexplo.re](#) by News Junkies.

National major prizes won by teams from the ACT included:

- IP Australia and IBM's [Entrepreneurial Hack](#) 2nd prize - [BizNamr.info](#) by Evronos.
- IP Australia and IBM's [Entrepreneurial Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [SizzleRig](#) by SquigglePig.
- Australian Business Register and Department of Industry, Innovation and Science's [Fresh Data Hack \(APIs and Data Services\)](#) 1st prize - [BizNamr.info](#) by Evronos.
- National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network) and Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's [Paddock to Plate Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [Agricultura](#) by Totally Original.

National Best Youth Team prizes won by teams from the ACT included:

- DLA Piper's [Best Youth Team](#) 2nd prize - [CrashWarning](#) by CrashHackers.
- DLA Piper's [Best Youth Team](#) Honourable Mention - [AverageAussie](#) by Phantom.

National bounty prizes won by teams from the ACT included:

- The ABC's [ABC News Content](#) Honourable Mention - [newsexplo.re](#) by News Junkies.
- Australian Bureau of Statistics' [That thing we all need](#) 1st prize - [Hackanation](#) by Alpha Hawk Magnum.
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's [AIHW Visualisation](#) 1st prize - [Walks of Life](#) by Project 205.
- Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's [AIHW Visualisation](#) Honourable Mention - [Exploring indigenous over-representation in youth detention](#) by Justice League.
- IP Australia's [IP Rights](#) Honourable Mention - [A Century of Intellectual Property](#) by SH and the MGs.
- Department of Education and Training's [Student Dropout Rates](#) 1st prize - [Staying the course](#) by CatHacks.

GovHack aims to connect citizens with government and industry to help unlock the social and economic value of open data - estimated to be worth around \$25 billion a year in Australia alone.

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