Media Release

Outstanding wins for NSW at GovHack 2016 Red Carpet Awards

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Outstanding innovation by project teams from New South Wales 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 New South Wales 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 New South Wales included:

- TaxLess: Optimising your tax return - An app to help maximise your tax returns by comparing your deductions with other people like you using open data from the Australian Taxation Office.
- Edugate - A website that helps students find the right course to help them get a job using open data from the Department of Education and Training, the Department of Employment and Australian Bureau and Statistics.
- Open Invoicing - 85% of Australian invoices are still processed manually. Open Invoicing offers a digital alternative that could mean millions of small businesses will no longer need shoe boxes full of receipts and invoices.
- Tolls BoardGame - A virtual board game about travel times on Sydney's roads using Transport for NSW's realtime dataset.
- GaiaXplorers - An app that explores the beauty and splendour of Australian flora and fauna using the Atlas of Living Australia Data.

- [Negative Gearing InSight - Are you one?](#) - A visualisation that analyses how many people are negatively gearing their property and which parts of Australia they live in using open data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

Red Carpet Award Results

International major prizes won by teams from New South Wales included:

- Google's [Machine Learning Hack](#) 1st prize - [TaxLess: Optimising your tax return](#) by TeamTax.

National major prizes won by teams from New South Wales included:

- Department of Education and Training and Department of Employment's [Future Australia Hack](#) Honourable Mention - [Edugate](#) by The Pentagon 5.
- Australian Financial Security Authority and the Queensland Government's [Innovative Ideas Hack](#) 2nd prize - [Open Invoicing](#) by The troll slayers.
- Australian Taxation Office and the Australian Bureau of Statistics' [Data Intelligence Hack](#) (Data journalism, spatial modelling, analytics)   1st prize - [TaxLess: Optimising your tax return](#) by TeamTax.

National Best Higher Education Team prizes won by teams from New South Wales included:

- Acquia Australia's [Best Higher Education Team](#) 1st prize - [Tolls Board Game](#) by govTolls.

National bounty prizes won by teams from New South Wales included:

- National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy's [NCRIS data](#) Honourable Mention - [GaiaXplorers](#) by GaiaXplorers.
- Australian Taxation Office's [Smarter Data](#) 1st prize - [TaxLess: Optimising your tax return](#)   by TeamTax.
- Australian Taxation Office's [Smarter Data](#) Honourable Mention - [Negative Gearing InSight - Are you one?](#) by Legion
- Department of Employment And Training's [Training Data](#)   Honourable Mention - [Edugate](#) by The Pentagon 5.

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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