

# Matrix wins award

A MALAGA-BASED business won the Premier's Award for Excellence at the 2010 WA Industry and Export Awards last month.

Matrix Composites and Engineering, a manufacturer of engineered products for the oil and gas, mining and defence industries, received the award from Commerce Minister Bill Marmion.

It also won the Large Advanced Manufacturer Export Award.

Mr Marmion said Matrix had established a strong reputation internationally, exporting to more than 30 countries.

"The oil and gas industry is vital to the growth of WA's economy and companies such

as Matrix play an important role in the development of this sector," he said.

"Matrix is an export oriented company and its products, which are all manufactured in WA, are exported to countries such as Brazil, Korea, and the US.

Mr Marmion also announced that the company has plans to open a new world-class production facility at the Australian Marine Complex in Henderson.

"This facility will house the world's largest and most sophisticated buoyancy production plant and provide a platform for future export and employment growth," he said.

Matrix chief executive

Aaron Begley said winning the award was recognition of the importance of the manufacturing industry.

"The only global sized industries we really have in this State are the mining and LNG sectors," he said.

"I'd hope that these awards highlight the importance of a strong domestic manufacturing base. It's nice to have the accolade, but it also highlights the fact that manufacturing is more stable than digging stuff out of the ground."

He said the Henderson syntactic foam facility was only a couple of months from completion.



**Matrix chief executive Aaron Begley at the company's factory in Malaga.** Picture:

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