

FBEA, Fiji's Premier Business Awards to recognise Fiji's elite business entities



Future Farms Ltd t/a Rooster Poultry receiving the prestigious Presidents Award during the 2018 Fiji Business Excellence Award.

Twenty of Fiji's leading business organisations have applied for recognition at the Fiji Business Excellence Awards (FBEA), organised by Fiji National University's National Training and Productivity Centre's (NTPC). The grandeur event will be held at the Sheraton Fiji Resort on Saturday, 2 November 2019.

This is the 21st year of the FBEA, now recognised as Fiji's Premier Business Awards. Throughout its years, the awards process has been successfully promoting NTPC and the Fiji Government's productivity initiatives. NTPC expects to host 700 guests during the event officiated by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Fiji, Major General (Ret'd) Jioji Konusi Konrote as the Chief Guest for the event.

Taniela Qalilawa, Quality Service Officer at NTPC's Department of Quality Awards, said the FBEA awards and assessment system assists industries and organisations in Fiji by implementing Business Excellence which "results in reduced costs through productivity initiatives such as minimising product defects and service rework, improved efficiency, cycle time and on-time deliveries".

"Subsequently, it helps increase sales volume and revenues, and hence the return on equity, assets and capital which results in improving shareholder's returns," he said.

Moreover, the Business Excellence Framework improves top management involvement, helps increase employees' satisfaction and reduce employee turnover.

"All in all, the customers are at the receiving end of all business excellence initiatives. If done properly with pure intent, business excellence helps in increasing customers' satisfaction and engagement, and it can be used as a distinctive competitive advantage for the organisation," he said.

Qalilawa said a common misconception about the Awards is that organisations view it is a competition, but it is not.

"The FBEA Framework is derived from best practices of high performing organisations/businesses around the world. Applicants to the Awards are evaluated based on their response to the various requirements of the Awards criteria," he said.

There are four levels in the Awards; the first is a Commitment to Business Excellence where an organisation, after assessment, attains between 300 – 400 points out of total 1000 points. The Achievement in Business Excellence where the organisation, following assessment, achieves 401 – 550 points. Then there are awards that are more prestigious namely the Fiji Business Excellence Prize that requires a score between 551 to 700 points out of 1000 points and the President's Business Excellence Award that mandates a score higher than 700 points.

Throughout its 21 year history, only six organisations have received the President's Business Excellence Awards.

The Awards follow a rigid international standard assessment process, and the results are kept strictly confidential. The winners and their levels of recognition are only revealed during the Awards Night.

"This premier business event is also a great opportunity for your (industries) management and staff to network with industry leaders from various sectors in our economy," he added.

The FBEA is open to companies incorporated, and physically operating in Fiji, Government Ministries and Departments or any other organisations the Fiji Business Excellence Awards Secretariat may deem eligible to apply.

Tickets for the event are on sale and can be purchased from the FBEA Secretariat. Tickets cost \$250.00 per person, and corporate tables are \$2,500.00 for ten guests. For more information, please contact the FBEA Secretariat on Phone 3311004 ext 4018 or 4042 or email taniela.qalilawa@fnu.ac.fj or jiuta.lewanituva@fnu.ac.fj .