

**Media release
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SHAPE AUSTRALIA ANNOUNCES COO APPOINTMENT

One of Australia's leading fitout and refurbishment companies SHAPE Australia is starting the new financial year with a new COO and a refreshed leadership team, following a number of key promotions within the business.

Former General Manager of the group's New South Wales business, Peter Marix-Evans has been appointed SHAPE's Chief Operating Officer, responsible for all state operations.

General Manager of SHAPE NSW for five years, Mr Marix-Evans has led the state business to immense success over the past five years; winning more than \$900 million in project work and increasing turnover by 35 per cent.

Recent landmark wins in the state include a \$25 million project refurbishing the Astral Residences at Star City Casino, a \$10 million fitout to relocate Amazon in Sydney and a \$13 million refurbishment project for iCare NSW.

He has also steered the NSW office to achieve a 98 per cent rate of defect-free delivery in FY16 and created a culture that has seen the office recognised among the top places to work in the world last year with the Constructive Benchmark award by Human Synergistics.

Mr Marix-Evans said he was excited about delivering the company's strategic vision nationally and taking the learnings in NSW to a larger audience.

"I see this as a terrific opportunity to help steer SHAPE into its next quarter century of sustained growth," Mr Marix-Evans said.

"The competitive and innovative landscape in the NSW market is now being experienced in other locations around Australia, and I look forward to helping our state teams tackle that. I'm committed to a truly borderless approach from a client service, consistency and cultural perspective."

SHAPE NSW's former Senior Commercial Manager Phil Wicks will replace Mr Marix-Evans as General Manager of NSW. With the company since 2003, Mr Wicks has served in a range of key roles and has an intimate understanding of the business and its client needs.

SHAPE CEO Michael Barnes said the promotion of Mr Marix-Evans was an opportunity to look at the entire leadership structure.

"Peter has done a fantastic job leading NSW to great success and is perfect to drive this at a national level," Mr Barnes said.

"This leadership refresh puts the company in a good position to tackle the current market, which is strong in some areas and in others requires some innovation to tackle challenging circumstances."

As part of the leadership refresh, ACT General Manager Ben Wright will take over as Queensland General Manager, moving back to his home state after six years interstate.

In the ACT Mr Wright has tripled sales over the past four years, bringing earnings from \$19.2 million in FY13 to \$60.5 million in FY16.

SHAPE is currently recruiting to fill the ACT position left open by Mr Wright.

Finally, in Victoria Adam Head has been promoted to General Manager after several years in the business, driving strong client satisfaction and business growth through a renewed focus on customer service.

"This is an exciting period for SHAPE as we embark on a mission to change the model of engagement in the industry," Mr Barnes said.

"We have seen tangible benefits in recent years with an early and direct engagement approach that leads to cost savings for clients, the delivery of higher quality work and – in some cases – the elimination of defects.

"The SHAPE team is united in evolving the stage when a building expert is engaged in order to drive business growth within our company as well as better results for our clients and collaborative partners."

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For more information, please contact:

Pammy Meyers

Bastion Effect

M: 0421 105 710

Pammy@bastioneffect.com

Pia Demsky

Bastion Effect

M: 0409 441 041

Pia@bastioneffect.com

About SHAPE

SHAPE is one of Australia's largest specialist fit out and refurbishment companies, with an annual turnover of \$450 million and a staff of more than 300 people nationally. SHAPE has offices in each mainland state and territory and is a privately owned company. SHAPE delivers commercial projects both small and large for private and Government organisations.

With a focus on collaboration and zero disruption to business operations, SHAPE brings a partnership approach to understanding client needs and targeting defect free projects delivered on time.