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MEDIA RELEASE

Adrian Cosenza takes top honour at APEC 2025 bestowed prestigious Lighthouse Award

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The Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA) is proud to announce that Chief Executive Officer Adrian Cosenza has been awarded the 2025 Lighthouse Award for Business Ethics at the 2025 APEC Business Ethics Forum in Seoul, Korea this week. The APEC Lighthouse Award is prestigious international recognition for outstanding leadership in promoting ethical business practices among small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the health sector.

Presented through the Business Ethics for APEC SMEs Initiative, the award recognises individuals and organisations that serve as a 'bright and steady light' in advancing integrity and ethical standards across APEC's 21 economies.

Adrian Cosenza is the first individual Australian recipient of this award, underscoring AOA's global leadership in medical professionalism and ethical governance.

This is the second time that Australia has featured. In his capacity as AOA CEO Adrian chaired the formation and assembly of the Australian Consensus Framework for Ethical Collaboration in the Healthcare Sector (ACF) which was launched at the APEC meeting in Tokyo in 2018 where Australia as a nation was awarded the 2018 Lighthouse award. The ACF remains as the largest initiative of its kind globally with 78 signatories. Adrian is also the inaugural elected Chair of the Australian Ethical Healthcare Alliance (AEHA) a position he currently holds. Under Adrian's leadership, the AOA and AEHA have consistently championed transparency, fairness, and accountability, particularly in its interactions with industry partners and in its stewardship of surgical education, professional conduct, and public trust.

AOA President Scott Fletcher said, "Adrian is deeply deserving of this honour. His commitment to ethical leadership has set a powerful standard not only within AOA but across the entire healthcare sector. This award reflects the impact of his integrity-driven approach on both national and international stages."

On receiving the honour Adrian said, "I'm extremely grateful and humbled by this honour, this recognition further positions AOA, the AEHA and Australia, as a global advocate for ethical business conduct in healthcare."

The Business Ethics for APEC SMEs Initiative, launched in 2010–2011, is the world's largest public-private partnership focused on raising ethical standards in health-related industries, including biopharmaceuticals and medical devices. The initiative aims to level the playing field for SMEs and strengthen trust and transparency in health systems across the region.

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About the Australian Orthopaedic Association

The Australian Orthopaedic Association (AOA) is the peak professional body for orthopaedic surgeons in Australia. AOA provides high quality specialist education, training and continuing professional development. AOA is committed to ensuring the highest possible standard of orthopaedic care and is the leading authority in the provision of orthopaedic information to the community. AOA actively supports scientific research and orthopaedic humanitarian initiatives in Australia and overseas.