

# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Sydney Stores Paint the Town Red

**Two lower North Shore paint store owners have taken out top honours in the Franchise Council of Australia's annual Excellence in Franchising Awards last night.** Matt McCarthy of Naremburn and Simon Hill of Lane Cove own the Inspirations Paint stores in Chatswood and Cremorne. Both were awarded the **Multi-store Franchise of the Year Award NSW/ACT 2017** at the prestigious event, which was held atop Sydney Tower.

Simon Hill stated he was overjoyed with the win, "After ten years working in the business, this recognition of the team's commitment to our customers is extremely satisfying".

The Chatswood store is situated in a high profile location on the Pacific Highway and the Cremorne store is just off Military Road. The stores are part of Australia's largest network of paint stores, Inspirations Paint, supplying 1 in every 6 litres of paint to the Australian market.

Matt McCarthy purchased the existing Inspirations Paint store in Chatswood in January 2014, retaining all existing staff including the manager, Simon Hill. Matt injected new life into the store; renovating the store to create a dedicated retail zone, changed the operational layout, increased stock holdings and wholeheartedly embraced marketing. In 2015, Matt began negotiations to purchase a store in the neighbouring territory of Cremorne. In early 2016 Matt became partners with long term manager Simon Hill and settled on the purchase of Cremorne.

Inspirations Paint Chatswood and Cremorne service both the professional painter market (trade) and the DIY market (retail). Sales growth has increased considerably over the last three years on the back of the businesses clear service positioning, giving genuine personal attention to customers' painting projects.

Matt McCarthy said, "Simon and I have big plans for the future with a focus on being the best in service in the Lower North Shore."



*Pictured at last night's award ceremony at Sydney Tower from L to R are: Jason Gehrke National Deputy Chairman FCA, Joel Goodsir Head of Marketing Inspirations Paint, Matt McCarthy Inspirations Paint Chatswood & Cremorne Owner, Robert Guy CEO Inspirations Paint, Simon Hill Inspirations Paint Chatswood & Cremorne Owner, Bruce Billson Chairman FCA, Damian Paull CEO FCA and Sean O'Donnell NSW Chapter President FCA*



Simon Hill and Matt McCarthy



The Multi-store Franchise of the Year Award 2017

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*Inspirations Paint is Australia's leading paint store network with 130 stores across Australia. Inspirations Paint Franchisees care about their customers, staff and their community and are all about giving personal attention to your project to achieve a great result. What's your next project?*

**For more information or to obtain high res images please contact:**

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