

## Portwest wins Irish Exporter of the Year 2018



The Export Industry Awards 2018, organised by the Irish Exporters Association, which honours the achievements of companies working in the export industry in Ireland, took place on Friday, 16 November at the Clayton Hotel, Burlington Road, Dublin. 10 companies won category awards across a range of sectors.



Mayo headquartered Portwest was crowned the overall Exporter of the Year Award 2018 after winning the Multinational Exporter of the Year Award earlier in the evening. Irish comedian Mario Rosenstock compered the black tie Awards Ceremony & Gala Dinner, attended by 500 export industry professionals together with representatives from over 25 Embassies and Diplomats.

Established in 1904, Portwest is a family owned business now managed by the third generation of the Hughes family native to Westport. The company is a manufacturer and distributor of work wear, safety footwear and *Personal Protective Equipment*. Employing over 3,500 globally, with 150 at head office, Portwest's 592-page catalogue is available in 26 languages and features 1300+ safety styles making Portwest a 'one-stop-shop' for all

safety requirements. Portwest has developed ground-breaking product innovation in the last two years such as “Ezee” Zip Portwest, the first major zip technology in over a century.

Speaking at the Awards Ceremony, Nicola Byrne, President of the Irish Exporters Association said: *“Since their inauguration in 2001, The Export Industry Awards have grown to become one of the most prestigious industry awards in Ireland. We recognised the remarkable achievements of companies working in the export industry, from Small & Emerging exporters to the Multinationals, and from Logistics & Supply Chain companies to Tech, Maritime and export service providers. Also, we recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievement of the 11 category winners and in particular the 2018 Overall Exporter of the Year.*

*We are delighted to announce Portwest as the winner of the Overall Exporter of the Year 2018. The judges found that Portwest showed an impressive globally-focused innovation and growth strategy. The judges were particularly impressed by Portwest’s focus on anchoring its global ambitions in its Irish heritage. They displayed an exceptionally customer-focused approach, and are a global ambassador both for the West of Ireland and the quality of the Irish exporting industry.”*



The winner of Logistics & Supply Chain Company of the Year, sponsored by Cathay Pacific Cargo was [Rhenus Logistics Ltd.](#), Dublin, while the Life Sciences Exporter of the Year, sponsored by Dixon International Logistics was awarded to [Silvercloud Health](#), Dublin.