

FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

MEDIA RELEASE Tuesday, 21st December 2021

HEADLINE: ABA Legal Group founder wins 2021 Australian Young Entrepreneur Awards legal services category

Leading entrepreneur Andrew Antonopoulos was named 2021 Australian Young Entrepreneur Legal Services on Saturday night.

This award capped a significant year of growth for the three businesses he has founded ABA Legal Group, ABA BioScience and tech start-up Synnch. a web-based platform that aims to simplify the tedious process of claiming back money used for research and development.

The young business leader is excited about the year ahead, believing that after a challenging 2021, "there will be significant opportunities available for innovators in 2022," leading entrepreneur Andrew Antonopoulos says.

Mr Antonopoulos said the Australian economy is bouncing back from the difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Morgan Stanley is forecasting growth of 4.9 per cent due to restrictions easing and borders reopening, although the labour market is expected to tighten up even more despite international borders opening up," Mr Antonopoulos.

"What is going to become even more important for companies hoping to attract and retain staff is wellbeing – it is not just about salary and monetary benefits anymore. More importantly though, developing a strong unity and culture at our locations has proven to be our greatest asset. With all the isolation going on, to be able to come to an environment where there is a lot of positive engagement, camaraderie and a sense of achievement has been absolutely key."

Mr Antonopoulos said the Great Supply Chain Disruption presents a problem for all businesses in 2022.

"This isn't temporary – this is an ongoing problem caused by disruptions to the global supply chain and impacting companies' stock levels and availability of services. Business leaders must engage in ongoing contingency planning and forecasting of risk to the supply chain and this will remain critical in 2022."

He said he was buoyed by the Australian's Government's moves to reward innovation and research.



"This can be seen in the new patent box regime, Australia's first and an important step towards offering concessional tax benefits to biotechnology and medical patents," he said.

Mr Antonopoulos' predictions follow a successful year for ABA Legal Group and its business units.

He was a finalist in the Gold Coast Young Entrepreneur Awards for ABA Legal Group, ABA Bioscience Consulting and Synnch.

In addition, both the Legal and R&D teams have grown strongly in 2021.

In August Jodie Robinson joined ABA Legal Group as the new Head of Legal from Brisbane-based Cooper Grace Ward.

Ms Robinson has two decades' experience advising innovative companies in the SME sector. Her appointment coincided with the group doubling its headcount in 12 months.

"We've laid the basis for a stellar 2022, not just for our Legal and R&D divisions but also for ABA Bioscience Consulting, which is at the forefront of helping businesses, researchers and innovators conduct research and medical trials in Australia," Mr Antonopoulos said.

"Initiatives such as the \$A20 billion Medical Research Future Fund and Australia's best-inclass Research and Development Tax Incentive program have laid the groundwork for what we believe will be a decade of growth in the healthcare and medical research start-up space."

Mr Antonopoulos said more companies were seeing the advantage of partnering with ABA Bioscience Consulting to capitalise on commercial opportunities in the coming years.

"Our end-to-end advisory offering ensures that when moving to Australia, businesses have everything covered from corporate tax through to legal, R&D Tax Incentives, governance and compliance issues," he said.

"This means they can take full advantage of the Australian research environment."



About ABA Legal Group:

ABA Legal Group specialises in delivering corporate solutions, tax advice, and R&D Tax Incentive and Grants support, helping businesses uncover their true potential.

Founded in 2015 by leading tax lawyer and innovation specialist Andrew Antonopoulos, the organisation has a team of tax consultants, lawyers, and R&D specialists that work with clients to develop strong foundations, overcome challenges, and reveal exciting opportunities to take them to the next level of business.

ABA solves complex problems through advising on and implementing tax, R&D, corporate, and commercial law strategies. Everything we do is backed by our extensive experience in taxation, corporate and commercial law, and the inter-relatedness of these disciplines. Its core driver is to look at business through lenses other than a solely legal one. By doing this it can offer a comprehensive service that allows companies to pursue potential from all avenues.

To learn more, visit abalegalgroup.com.au

For all media enquiries, images, or interviews please contact ABA Legal Group, Head of Marketing, Shane Graham **e** shane@abalegalgroup.com.au/**m** + 61 435 758 361

ENDS

