



Chief Executive Women

Women leaders enabling women leaders

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**21 June 2017**

## **2017 CEW Scholar: Preeti Bajaj (Schneider Electric) heads to Harvard**

Chief Executive Women (CEW) today announced Schneider Electric's Vice President Strategy and Commercial Operations, Preeti Bajaj is the winner of a CEW scholarship to attend Harvard Business School in July this year.

"CEW is proud to provide scholarships for talented women to sharpen their leadership skills, enrich their experiences and advance their careers.

"Even now only 5 per cent of CEOs in the ASX200 are women. The aim of CEW's Scholarship Program is to provide opportunities to fast-track the careers of talented women and improve the representation of women in senior leadership roles in Australia," said Wendy Stops of CEW's Scholarships Committee.

### **The winner**

Preeti Bajaj is Vice President, Strategy and Commercial Operations for the global energy management and automation specialist, Schneider Electric, Australia. She is also the Australian Chair for CoreNet Global, an organisation focused on driving productive outcomes for the users of the commercial built environment.

Her career has spanned roles in business development, general management, operations, strategy and transformation for multi-nationals and start-ups, including; Brookfield Multiplex, Metcash, Intuit Real Estate Solutions & Vision Software.

"I believe motivating and building high energy, high performance teams is the most effective way to deliver business results."

"I'm looking forward to the Authentic Leadership Development program at Harvard and sharing the insights with my network of senior executives both at Schneider Electric and elsewhere. Mentoring emerging female talent is a passion of mine and I believe more women should be encouraged to embrace commercial roles and focus on commercial outcomes in business," said Preeti Bajaj.

### **The scholarship**

The CEW scholarship will enable Preeti to attend the Authentic Leadership Development program at Harvard Business School, Boston Massachusetts in 2017.

During the 5-day intensive program HBS professors guide participants as they uncover the characteristics of authentic leadership and design a leadership approach driven by their most deeply held values.

The scholarship is part of the CEW Scholars program, which helps talented Australia women take their careers to the next level by supporting executive education at internationally acclaimed business schools.

**ENDS**

**About CEW Scholars ([www.cew.org.au/scholarships](http://www.cew.org.au/scholarships))**

*The CEW Scholars program enables women leaders by supporting them at critical junctures in their careers, from their first management roles to top executive positions. More than 100 women have been awarded scholarships to business schools in Australia and internationally since CEW commenced its executive program for women leaders in 1992.*

**CEW Scholars program is funded through the CEW annual dinner and the generosity of sponsors including:**

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**About Chief Executive Women ([www.cew.org.au](http://www.cew.org.au))**

*Chief Executive Women is the pre-eminent organisation representing more than 420 of Australia's most senior women from the corporate, public, academic and not-for-profit sectors. Its mission is "women leaders enabling women leaders". Through advocacy, targeted programs and scholarships, CEW works to remove the barriers to women's progression and ensure equal opportunity for prosperity. CEW offers innovative and substantive programs aimed at enabling women's participation and future leadership.*

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