WINNER

Manuel Pena (centre) with Project Manager Josh Turner and Marina Mirage stylist Simone Bennett-Smith.

Coast company scoops top fitout awards

GOLD Coast company Projects Queensland Interiors has bagged four awards at the Australian Shop and Office Fitters Industry Association's 2015 national conference in Hobart.

PQI general manager Manuel Pena accepted awards for Best Fitout and Expansion over \$1 million for Louis Vuitton in Brisbane, Best Use of Major Sponsor's Product (Laminex), also for LV Brisbane, Queensland Fitout of the Year for TAG Heuer Brisbane, and Best Commercial Fitout for Sunland Group's office at 111 Eagle St, Brisbane.

Also, PQI's Jayden Wood was named Queensland Apprentice of the Year.

Mr Pena said not long after the company was founded it attracted the attention of global brand Louis Vuitton, which led to work on the fitout of its

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first Surfers Paradise store upgrade some years later.

"For us, 2014 was a busy year and the expansion and upgrade of LV's Brisbane store was a huge project, especially as LV continued to trade while we worked," he said.

"To be awarded the best fitout and expansion over \$1 million by our peers is a great achievement for our team."

PQI was founded in 1989 and is a shop fitting, cabinetmaking and project management business that focuses on quality fitouts.

It has its manufacturing facility in Molendinar, and delivers projects nationwide and overseas.

PQI's founder and managing director Brad Dunne said its reputation was built on the team's ability to continuously deliver world-class contracts. including for more than 20 global brands such as Gucci, Prada, Mont Blanc, Bottega Veneta, Paspaley, Cartier, Rolex, Omega, The Hour Glass, Tiffany, Salvatore Ferragamo, Polo RL and Rusty.

He said PQI's association with LV had seen it complete more than 10 stores nationwide, three in New Zealand and global store surveys and setouts in New Delhi, Dubai and Bangkok.

"PQI's work also includes fit-outs for universities, prestige residences and apartments, and commercial projects including restaurants, coffee shops and shopping centre kiosks," Mr Dunne said.