

Irish Exporters Association Elects First Female President

11890 directory enquiries founder Nicola Byrne is new IEA president

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The Irish Exporters Association (IEA) has appointed Nicola Byrne as its first female president since the organisation was founded in 1951. Byrne, who founded 11890 directory enquiries, replaces Paschal McCarthy as IEA president.

Byrne founded 11890 directory enquiries in 2006, also forming social media monitoring site Cloud90 and RiskEye, which provides online reputation management services. She is also on the board of the New Children's Hospital Group and a member of the evaluation board on Fingal's Local Enterprise board.

Simon McKeever, chief executive of the IEA, commented: "Nicola's experience in founding and developing her own businesses puts her at the forefront of exporting and entrepreneurship. An insights guru, Nicola has a wealth of international experience seizing business opportunities, overcoming barriers and developing contacts."

Nicola Byrne said: "Being president during this year of Brexit is challenging. The association will need to offer our members and the government our fullest support and best advice — as well as opening doors and minds among our clients and colleagues across Europe. This year, of all years, the association must defend our country's economic life's blood."