

7th November 2008

HELPING HAND FOR SOUTHERN SMALL BUSINESSES

Minister for Small Business Paul Holloway and the Minister for the Southern Suburbs John Hill today announced more than \$1 million in grants for small businesses based in southern metropolitan Adelaide.

Software products, water purification equipment and a facility to repair industrial bakeware are some of the concepts to be funded in the first round of the Small Business Development Grant program.

The \$5 million Small Business Development Grant program is part of the \$80 million joint Federal and State Government support package developed in response to the closure of Mitsubishi's Tonsley Park plant.

This first round of grants is expected to create at least 39 jobs in Adelaide's southern suburbs.

Minister Holloway says the competitive, merit-based grants are aimed at promoting the growth of high potential small- and medium-sized businesses in the Adelaide's southern suburbs.

"This Government is using the wider support package to ensure the productive capacity of the south and its ability to create jobs for people living in the southern suburbs is strengthened, not lost, due to the closure of the Tonsley Park plant," Minister Holloway says.

"These grants are to assist workers to remain active in Adelaide's southern suburbs by encouraging and nurturing small and medium-sized businesses in the region."

Minister Hill says the Small Business Development Grants go a long way toward ensuring the vitality and diversity of the region's economy.

"Adelaide's southern suburbs are bursting with optimism and opportunity," Minister Hill says.

"As the population grows and industry diversifies, it can only become an even more attractive region for business to establish and develop."

Administered by the Centre for Innovation (CFI) and the southern Business Enterprise Centres (BEC) on behalf of the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED), grants are available to firms with a turnover of between \$250,000 and \$5 million a year.

The second round of applications for grants is due to close on November 14, with a further two rounds scheduled before the end of June next year.

Successful recipients in the first round of grants are:

- Grants Bakery Equipment (\$100,000) – to establish a facility to repair, clean and recoat bake-ware for large industrial bakeries around Australia. At present this service is only available interstate.
- Clintel Pty. Ltd. (\$260,000) – to develop residential healthcare software products.
- WaterLab Pty Ltd (\$135,000) – to market water purification equipment for domestic, community and industrial applications.
- Power Solutions DTD Pty. Ltd. (\$360,000) – to further develop patient billing software for use in healthcare industry in Australia and New Zealand.
- Radicalogic Technologies Pty. Ltd. (\$200,000) – to develop a Health Safety Monitor & Mapper that will assist in the control of acquired infections in hospitals.

Southern Adelaide businesses interested in the Small Business Development Grant program, should contact the Centre for Innovation's South Office on 8201 7520 or its website

www.centreforinnovation.org.au