

Northern Rivers Regional Manufacturing Forum

Meeting Notes 4.30pm Monday 30th January 2012 NSW Business Chamber Northern Rivers



Attendance:

Tom Bowers	-	Regional Councillor, NSW Business Chamber State Councillor, NSW Business Chamber Board Member, Australian Business Industrial
Peter Smith	-	North Coast Institute of TAFE
Wayne McDermott	-	East Coast Polyurethanes
Paul Hansen	-	OEM Dynamics
John Clark	-	Ant Packaging
Bill McKee	-	McKee Co Engineering
John Murray	-	NSW Business Chamber – Regional Manager
Mark Young	-	NSW Business Chamber – Business Development Manager
Donna Yager	-	NSW Business Chamber – Regional Coordinator

Apologies:

Brett McLaren	-	Kimberley Kampers
Rudy Pearce	-	Armsign
Don Priest	-	Southern Cross Botanicals Pty Ltd
Bruce Beasley	-	Go Grow
Greg Milham	-	Cawarra Cosmetics
John Flemming	-	Duraplas
Nathan McGrath	-	Enterprise Connect
Marianne Metzner	-	Wicked Weasel

Group Introductions

John Murray	-	<p>Provided Forum with details of upcoming Workplace Health & Safety Seminars Endeavouring to have Ramon Gebert (NSW Business Chamber WHS Expert) conduct more workplace audits – will advise when this is likely to take place For those not previously present at the Forum – outlined progress to date so far and objectives of the Forum, focus/content will be led by manufacturers with the role of NSW Business Chamber that of coordination, resource and information gathering and dissemination Details of pending funding submission for Enterprise Connect funding to deliver series of educational workshops/seminars to the Northern Rivers manufacturing sector Outcome of submission not known until approximately mid June. If successful program will commence July John presented the group with copies of the current NSW Business Chamber Submission to the NSW Manufacturing Industry Task Force Information provided on upcoming Modern Award & Fair Work Act workshops/consultation sessions to be conducted on 15 Feb 9am-11am Ballina, 1.00pm-3.00pm Tweed Heads. Contact with other established or establishing manufacturing forums continuing and resources from Hunter Net and Nambucca groups in transit.</p>
Tom Bowers	-	Issues with Modern Awards lie in the interpretation and potential conflict
John Murray	-	As yet to uncover existing matrix for industry capability audits. Currently drafting one in house

for your comment and this will be distributed over the coming days – please provide feedback on areas you would like to have more information on about other manufacturers in the region.

- Paul Hansen - Audit will identify gaps and opportunities where capacity is lacking or if there is excess
- Tom Bowers - Breakdowns, busy or lean times, lumpy projects all lead to resource challenges. Subcontracting can assist and is a good model to minimise risk
- John Murray- Payroll tax subsidies – not an incentive to smaller sized regional businesses
NSW Business Chamber – Paul Orton – developing a submission on behalf of SME membership
Still no Cross Border Commissioner appointment announced
NSW Small Business Commissioner Yasmin King – report/media release on ‘Listening Tour’ to be available this week
Tony Abbott committed to visit the Northern Rivers in the coming months, date yet to be confirmed
Janelle Saffin committed to coordinating visit to the Northern Rivers by Mark Habib – date also yet to be confirmed
Asked Forum if they were ready to elect Chair, Sec etc.
- Tom Bowers- Prudent to ensure focus on bringing compliance issues to the fore during Abbott visit.
Example: registration stickers/papers – unnecessary resources/duplication
- Wayne McDermott- Continue as is with the Forum, uncover issues as we go and as more manufacturers participate
Leave format as is and evaluate structure in one month
Themes for each meeting may keep focus:
Suggested themes: Energy savings (JM to speak with Richard Wake)
Financial monitoring and control processes/integrated manufacturing software
Economy of manufacturing – Micah (NSWBC)
Consultants – business coaching/improvement
Best Practice HR Manuals
Best Practice WHS Manuals
Motivating & Engaging Employees
- John Clark - In response to Wayne’s current MYOB concerns (change to sequel system), John indicated he had sourced a Gold Coast service provider to integrate MYOB into ACCESS
Request that Agenda be prepared prior to the meeting, distributed and made available for contribution/adding items for discussion

RESOURCES FROM MEETING

EVENTS:

Fair Work & Modern Award Consultation (webinar)

9am – 11am 15th February
NSW Business Chamber Office
2/54 Tamar Street, Ballina
[MORE INFORMATION](#)

Fair Work & Modern Award Consultation (webinar)

1.00pm – 3.00pm 15th February
Tweed Heads
[EMAIL DONNA FOR MORE INFORMATION OF TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE \(VENUE YET TO BE CONFIRMED\)](#)

Workplace Health & Safety Seminars

Tuesday 20 March 2012

Grafton 8.00am – 11.00am [DETAILS OR BOOKINGS](#)

Lismore 2.00pm – 5.00pm [DETAILS OR BOOKINGS](#)

Wednesday 21st March 2012

Ballina 8.00am – 11.00am [DETAILS OR BOOKINGS](#)

Tweed Heads 2.00pm – 5.00pm [DETAILS OR BOOKINGS](#)

Invitation to inaugural China International Imported Products Expo (CIE) in Kunshan in late March.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

CONTACTS:

Pressure Testing

G.R. Gould Boiler Inspector
1 Orchid Place
Suffolk Park
02 6685 4303

All Areas Inspections
CJ Wallis Pty Ltd
Ph: 02 88840777
www.aainspections.com.au
Email: admin@aainspections.com.au
Baulkham Hills

Forklift Training, Assessment
& Certification/Licence

North Coast Institute of TAFE
Wollongbar Campus
Margaret Greene
Ph: 02 6620 4747
Email: Margaret.Greene@tafensw.edu.au

Forklift, light truck, pallet jack
servicing
(Diesel, gas, electric & petrol)

FTS Tweed Heads
Andy
\$88/hr
Ph: 0438 905 129

Red Tape – Local Council issues
Contact

Commissioner Yasmin King
NSW Small Business Commissioner
P: 1300 795 534
F: 1300 795 644
we.assist@smallbusiness.nsw.gov.au
GPO Box 5477, Sydney NSW 2001

To see results of the fourth RED TAPE survey conducted in 2011 visit



RED TAPE SURVEY

GreenBiz Check – affordable, world-leading online environmental certification guaranteed to save money and maximise your green credentials

Dave Johnston
Certified Consultant
GreenBizCheck
Gold Coast South
0416 179105
dj@greenbizcheck.com
www.greenbizcheck.com

Referral for Conflict Resolution

Ruth Levy
Principal
Ruth Levy Consulting
0411 236 396
zulig@bigpond.com
Based in Byron Bay – servicing entire region

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

The One Minute Manager – highly recommended by Tom Bowers