



ShireBiz Bulletin

The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter

11th April 2023

About ShireBiz

ShireBiz is a not for profit organisation dedicated to the Economic Development of Southern Sydney to enable sustainable business development which provides employment opportunities for the local community.

Our strategic pillars are:

- Advocacy for business investment, traction and job diversity eg projects such as supporting *the development of the ANSTO Innovation precinct*
- Advocacy for infrastructure investment, policy change and streamlining regulatory environments in the Sutherland Shire
- Engaging the community through regular *newsletter*, and *events*

Shirebiz would like to thank our supporters for your support over the last year

Shirebiz supporters are invited to continue to support Shirebiz by becoming members. [Join at](#) If you want to regularly receive this Bulletin Contact the Secretary at info@shirebiz.org.au. We would also appreciate feedback on the content.

Realise Business: How To Start a Business – Online Workshop

Thursday 13th April from 12.00 – 3pm

Get your business off the ground at speed! Do you have a business idea but are unsure where to start? Let's make this year your year for [new business success](#). Gain a wide-ranging view of the key areas you will need to start and manage a business and ensure successful outcomes

UNSW Nuclear Engineering Head: Training enough for AUKUS to be “Incredibly Difficult”

There are vast technical hurdles and skills availability [issues](#) to deliver the AUKUS submarine program, according to Dr Edward Obbard, the head of UNSW's nuclear engineering program, based on an analysis of the those needed to build, operate and maintain the new fleet.

Cicada Innovations: Xtech Expo Jul 23 2023

It's been a busy month at Cicada, with momentum building around what will be Australia's biggest and boldest [deep tech festival](#), [Cicada x Tech23](#). Here's how you can get involved: Are you the next Morse Micro, Propeller, Regrow? We're searching the nation for 23 of the most exciting deep tech startups who are building solutions that will transform the way we build cities, tackle climate change, and reimagine healthcare.

Electricity from thin air: an enzyme from bacteria can extract energy from hydrogen in the atmosphere

It may sound surprising, but when times are tough and there is no other food available, some soil bacteria can consume traces of hydrogen in the air as an energy source. In fact, bacteria remove a staggering 70 million tonnes of hydrogen yearly from the atmosphere, a process that literally shapes the composition of the

air we breathe. We have isolated an enzyme that [enables some bacteria to consume hydrogen](#) and extract energy from it, and found it can produce an electric current directly when exposed to even minute amounts of hydrogen.

Wiping away a 25,000-tonne national problem

Wet wipes though, another single-use item – and generally made of polyester or polypropylene – are no problem. Worse still, according to The Hygiene Co. co-founder Phil Scardigno, is that the [amount of wipes](#) thrown out by Australians each year – an estimated 25 million kilograms – represents 30 times that of plastic straws.

PC report on productivity underlines its utter failure

Really. The utter uselessness of the Productivity Commission's [latest report](#) and recommendations on productivity just released, and the utter uselessness of the PC itself, can be seen in what it says about industry extension services. These services are the expression of the idea that small firms, as are common in Australian business, have trouble identifying and adopting the latest technologies from overseas, and by definition 98 percent the world's innovation occurs overseas.

National Robotics Strategy to back advanced manufacturing

The Federal Government has launched a [discussion paper](#) on the development of a new National Robotics Strategy to explore the opportunities and challenges for Australian industries adopting robotics and automation. Minister for Industry and Science Ed Husic said the discussion paper will help guide a conversation on growing the production and responsible use of robotics in Australia

ARC Microrecycling Research Hub opens at UNSW Sydney

The [Microrecycling Hub](#) is a five-year national program of cutting-edge research to develop innovative technologies to recover the valuable materials contained in Australia's battery and other complex wastes not currently subject to conventional or widespread recycling. The Australian Research Council (ARC) Research Hub for Microrecycling of Battery and Consumer Wastes, directed by renowned UNSW Scientia Professor Veena Sahajwalla, was opened today.

ACCC to allow supermarkets to collaborate on soft-plastics recycling

To manage the soft plastics stockpile and enable in-store collections, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) has proposed to [grant authorisation](#) to allow supermarkets to continue collaborating. The proposed authorisation will allow the supermarkets to “develop and implement a solution” to address the environmental risk of the existing stockpile and any future waste

CEDA: Federal Budget must offer a clear Vision for the future

First and foremost, this Budget must work with and not against monetary policy and the RBA. It should offer a [clear vision](#) and rationale for any tax changes and the principles underlying them that could set the stage for more holistic reform – something CEDA would welcome.

The National Reconstruction Fund, lessons for the future

The federal government’s \$15 Billion National Reconstruction Fund faces a range of [strategic and management dilemmas](#). The Treasurer Jim Chalmers set out the governments priorities in his essay ‘Capitalism after the crisis’ in February. He called for focus on three things:

- An orderly energy and climate transition of the economy
- A more resilient and adaptable economy

And a focus on growth hand in hand with equality of opportunity.

My Business: What your workers want

The past 25 years have changed our working lives immeasurably. We’ve experienced big events like the global financial crisis (GFC) and the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the rise of the internet and social media, wireless technology and artificial intelligence (AI). A new [report](#) from jobs board SEEK analysed these changes in the working world and how they impact employee needs and expectations. Keeping up with them is a challenge, but well worthwhile for any business owner.

Strengthening Australian business through research and development

The adoption of Industry 4.0 technologies such as high-performance computing, Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning, sensors and the Internet of Things (IoT),

robotics and other advanced technologies, is accelerating around the globe. Additive manufacturing is a prime example of how CSIRO is applying these [advanced technologies](#) in areas such as 3D printing, providing designers with immense opportunities to optimise parts for performance by removing the limitations imposed by traditional manufacturing methods.

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Regards,

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