



ShireBiz Bulletin

The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter

13th February 2024

**If you would like to receive this bulletin on a regular basis
contact the Secretary on info@shirebiz.org.au**

CEDA: Supply side with purpose

“It is clear that cyclical and structural drivers impacting our economy are increasing the degree of difficulty in decision-making for households, business and policymakers alike.” The balancing act of [the Stage 3 tax cuts](#) is a case in point, as the government has sought to deliver cost-of-living relief while limiting fiscal stimulus more broadly; all the while persistent structural weaknesses in our tax system remain unresolved and rental and house prices continue to rise, putting more pressure on the cost of living

An in-depth overview of the Australian superannuation industry with insights from award-winning firms

However, many Australians are still unaware of the benefits of the super system. [A recent study](#) by Melbourne University revealed just half the adult population believes the super industry works well for them. This guide aims to better inform the community about the benefits of super and, in doing so, encourage Australians to better engage with their fund

Tech boom sparks generational divide

Since 2020 digital adoption has accelerated in all businesses and industries. Now as

artificial intelligence seeps into industries and hybrid structures take hold, experts urge companies to bridge gaps to sustain organisational capability. [A new survey](#), by software site Capterra, reveals 85% of participants believe job skills are becoming more reliant on the use of digital tools. And 83% believe their company should provide greater support as new technology is introduced

AusIndustry Business Outreach Network alert

Industry Partner Organisation grants In our recent [February newsletter](#), we incorrectly indicated the application closing date as 5 March 2024. The correct application closing date is 16 February 2024 at 5:00pm AEDT, per the grant information page. We sincerely apologise for the incorrect information. If you have any questions regarding this correction, please contact AusIndustry Communications via email.

Australian company offers the world a S.O.F.T. option for problem textiles

In 2022 BlockTexx opened what [was reportedly](#) the world's [first commercial-scale recycling facility](#) for polyester and cotton blends, taking on one of the major challenges in an already majorly-challenging sector to operate in: textile recycling.. "Textile recycling is, from a chemical separation point of view, incredibly new," Graham Ross, who co-founded the company in 2018 with Adrian Jones, tells [@AuManufacturing](#). "We're one of the leading companies in the world and there's only a handful of us who are sort of at pilot scale or just got out of labs."

Gemaker Newsletter February 2024

Includes: Courses, workshops & programs: MedTech Specialisation (NSW), Deep Tech Elevate (Sydney), CSIRO: Innovate to Grow, ARM Hub's new research fellowship program *News & articles:* Communicating climate science interview, Ivan Power announced as NRF CEO, STEM resources for kids *Grants & funding:* NSSN Grand Challenge Fund Webinar, Dought-proofing Australian agriculture, Coles Nurture Fund, CRC Grants, Commercialisation Bridge Grant (WA), MedChem Australia .

Service NSW: Making sure everyone is safe at work

Includes: Have your say on plans for different types of homes in residential areas; Renew your Working with Children Check online; The app for boating safely in NSW and 2-step authentication: extra security to stop hackers

US boosts Technegas sales for Cyclopharm

Radiopharmaceutical manufacturer Cyclopharm has announced unaudited FY23 revenue up 14 percent to \$28.9 million and increasing momentum in the roll out of

its [Technegas lung imaging technology](#) in the United States. The US launch has resulted in 80 issued contracts to date, covering more than 280 individual institutions, of which six are at the final execution stage, with three at the final draft stage.

Grants for improving SME energy efficiency

The federal government has announced a further \$41 million in [Energy Efficiency Grants \(EEG\)](#) for Small and Medium Enterprises to improve energy efficiency, save on energy bills and lower emissions, taking the total size of the scheme to \$62 million. The grants between \$10,000 and \$25,000 can be used to upgrade to more efficient equipment including replacing air conditioners with high efficiency units or gas heating boilers with heat pumps.

COSBOA February 2024 Update

Includes: Give a Small Business Champion the recognition they deserve; Top five habits making small businesses a target for cyber crime; Hear from politicians, regulators, senior policy makers, business influencers and association leaders; Training for small business success and ATO resources, tools and services to support small business

WorkSafe unveils vital campaign ahead of engineered stone ban

A new [WorkSafe campaign](#) is gearing up to raise awareness about the upcoming ban on engineered stone, effective 1 July 2024, while reinforcing employers' responsibilities to protect workers before the ban takes effect. The initiative specifically targets individuals working with engineered stone, including those in regional communities, and will be translated for culturally and linguistically diverse communities heavily involved in the industry

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.



Regards,

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