



ShireBiz Bulletin

The Shire Economic Development Alliance Newsletter

6th February 2024

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

Small recycler develops answer to behind-the-scenes powder problem

Brad Scott uses the word “serendipity” to describe the progress of his plastic recycling business. In a few years it has gone from a hobby to developing what he says is a world first solution to a significant industrial waste problem. Scott says powder coating is a problem estimated to represent about 800,000 tonnes a year of waste going into landfill, and despite Dulux’s best efforts it hadn’t identified an answer.

Realise Business February Events

Includes: How to outsource your digital marketing 9 Feb 12-2pm; Leveraging AI for SEO for your business 13 Feb 11am-1pm; Learn how successful businesses scale and grow profitably 15 Feb 11am-1pm; Understanding your financial statements 20 Feb 11am-12:30pm and Determine your optimal pricing strategy 27 Feb 10am-12pm.

Your Business Update – February 2024

Includes: New guide helps small business avoid digital dust-ups; Has your business received support in tough times?; Is diversity and inclusion dead?; Does generative AI have a place in HR? and New WHS laws in 2024

Micro-X demonstrates micro-CT and passenger X-ray scanners

Cold cathode X-ray manufacturer Micro-X has demonstrated [the micro-CT scanner](#) for detecting strokes at the point of care, and passenger baggage scanner it is developing for the US Department of Homeland Security under a US\$14 million contract. The Adelaide company said delivery of the first fully functional prototype of the CT baggage scanner from its Seattle office, where it is undergoing final checks, to Homeland Security was 'imminent'

ASQA Update February 2024

Includes: Safeguarding student welfare and VET quality; Update on recent changes to initial registration requirements; Piloting the revised Standards for RTOs and Report on ASQA's regulatory Performance.

Australia can successfully manufacture for solar PV industry, says new report

A technoeconomic analysis of four stages in the solar photovoltaic supply chain in the [new Silicon 2 Solar roadmap](#) shows a credible case for Australia becoming a viable solar manufacturer, according to the report's authors

NSW Government: Flavours of NSW February 2024

Includes: Applications are open for the NSW Government's Going Global Export Program for Food and Beverage to South Korea Closes Feb 18th; Upcoming support for export to China and Japan; The inaugural Hive Awards will take place in May 2024 to recognise and celebrate innovation and excellence in the Australian food and beverage industry manufacturing sector Entires close 23rd February. Get a free cyber checkup of your business

Young Aussies say they are struggling to find jobs

A young Aussie has revealed the "hard" work reality that Gen Zers are facing, leaving the younger generation panicking about their futures. [Young Aussies are fed up](#) with not being able to find jobs in what should be an employee's market. The unemployment rate in Australia is currently sitting at 3.9 per cent, but Gen Zers say they are still struggling to find the jobs they want, and they've had enough.

BlueScope to invest \$1.15 billion, retain sovereign steelmaking

The Chief Executive Australian Steel Products, BlueScope Steel Tania Archibald has confirmed BlueScope will [invest \\$1.15 billion](#) to reline and upgrade its idled No. 6 Blast Furnace at Port Kembla. However at a media conference with Climate Change and Energy minister Chris Bowen, Archibald said the company remained committed to achieving net zero by 2050. She said: "But we can't lose our sovereign steel-making capability in the process.

Australian Retail Institute – Careers & Training Newsletter February 2024

Includes: Understanding and Addressing Workplace Sexual Harassment for Retail and Hospitality Managers; Manage Disrespectful, Aggressive or Abusive Customers and; Manage Disrespectful, Aggressive or Abusive Customers and the Diploma of Retail Merchandise Management*

Sutherland Shire Council: Business Now February 2024

Includes: Does your business offer physical or creative activities for children?; 2024/25 Community Grants and Subsidies Program Applications open Monday 26 February, Close 25 March; New free tool for Sutherland Shire Businesses! Have you heard about GrantsGuru? It's a FREE platform designed exclusively for businesses in the Sutherland Shire. Here's why you should register NOW: • Unlock Funding Opportunities: GrantsGuru is your gateway to a treasure trove of funding opportunities! Discover grants tailored to your business needs and take a step closer to achieving your goals.

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,

**Richard Walker, Secretary, Shirebiz
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