



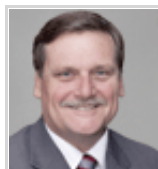
## Ministerial Media Statements

### Search Media Statements



**John Day**

**Minister for Planning; Culture and the Arts; Science and Innovation**



**Simon O'Brien**

**Minister for Finance; Commerce; Small Business**

*Tue 18 October, 2011*

### **Innovation funding to help boost local content**

#### **Portfolio: Science and Innovation, Commerce**

- **Funding will help increase local content in major projects and markets**
- **Research and innovation assistance helps SMEs compete for work**
- **First companies have been funded with more to come**

Science and Innovation Minister John Day and Commerce Minister Simon O'Brien have collaborated to assist Western Australian small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) compete for work in major projects and markets.

Minister Day said the Industry Facilitation and Support Program (IFSP) has now provided four engineering or manufacturing businesses with funding.

"The IFSP offers dollar-for-dollar financial assistance up to \$25,000 for SMEs in the manufacturing and service sectors to innovate and improve their competitiveness and productivity and help them compete for contracts," he said.

"The State Government has recognised that the small to medium manufacturing or services sectors are facing increased competition - better responsiveness to market demands is an important means of local industry maintaining its ability to compete for contracts and grow."

Minister O'Brien said the program complemented the State Government's Local Industry Participation Framework introduced in July 2011.

"As major resource projects come on stream, we are improving our understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of WA's manufacturing and services sector," he said.

"Through consultation with project proponents and funds like the IFSP, the State Government can help businesses improve their productivity and competitiveness."

The first successful companies to be granted IFSP assistance are:

- Geographe Enterprises - new technology
- Bossong Engineering Pty Ltd - equipment acquisition
- Cays Engineering Pty Ltd - meeting prequalification requirements and
- Dwyer Engineering and Construction Pty Ltd - work package capacity expansion.

#### **Fact File**

- **More information:** <http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/innovationdevelopmentschemes>

Science and Innovation Minister's office - 9213 6600

Commerce Minister's office - 9213 6400

## **Attachments**

[IFSPgrant.pdf](#)

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