



In this issue we highlight two programs available to Northern Territory businesses to develop their workforce and to build their business capability.

Workforce Development

The *Defence Support Industry Development Strategy* recently released by the Northern Territory Government and the Australian Industry and Defence Network NT (AIDN-NT), identified seven major points of focus to be addressed in order to develop and grow the local defence support industry to meet the current and future needs of Defence.

With the arrival of new, high-tech Defence platforms and the increased demand for new skills to support these platforms, the first point of focus being Workforce Development, is a critical area that needs to be addressed. An agreed definition of Workforce Development is a combination of attracting, retaining and managing the workforce, managing the size and composition of the workforce and skilling that workforce.

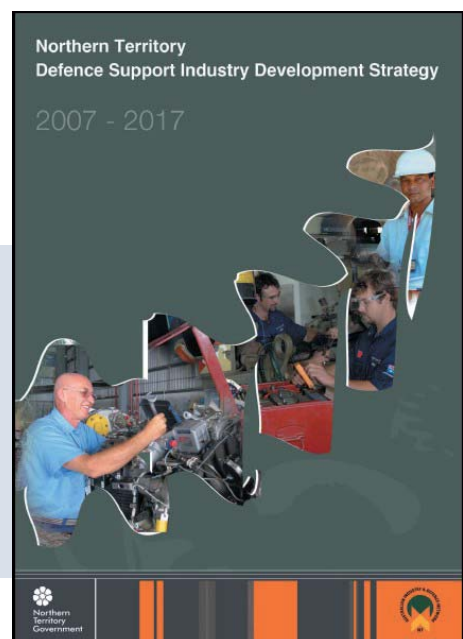
AIDN-NT has already begun addressing the first point of focus with their DEAL (Defence Education and Learning) initiatives. AIDN-NT has already been successful in achieving funding for DEAL Phase 1 via an AusIndustry funding initiative. DEAL Phase 1 includes national accreditation in Project Management where defence support industry

participants will be able to obtain either Certificate IV or Diploma level qualifications. While the first round of DEAL Phase 1 is well advanced and due to be completed in the third quarter of 2008, AIDN-NT has already begun planning to roll out the second round of this initiative in 2008-09.

DEAL Phase 2 is aimed at providing small and medium companies with important operating systems that are necessary to properly manage projects and meet defence expectations. These systems include OH&S, Quality Control and Intellectual Property. AIDN-NT is currently preparing the DEAL Phase 2 Project plan which is necessary to finalise the funding requirements.

For more information on these initiatives please contact the AIDN-NT Executive Officer - 08 8947 2033.

Workforce Development is a combination of attracting, retaining and managing the size and composition of the workforce and skilling that workforce.



Do you need help to grow your business?

The Territory Business Growth program is a Northern Territory Government initiative with an objective of "Helping your business and the Territory to grow."

A number of businesses engaged in the defence support industry have participated in the Territory Business Growth program and achieved impressive results.

The program is presented through the Department of Business, Economic and Regional Development and offers Territory businesses the opportunity to work closely with highly skilled business improvement consultants to achieve better business growth.

The program offers Northern Territory businesses information, funding and development services to enhance business performance, profitability, employment levels and market penetration through better business planning.

Grant assistance of up to \$10,000 is available through the program to enable eligible* Territory businesses to engage suitably qualified consultants to develop a business plan.

Northern Territory businesses can now choose from a range of Territory Business Growth programs to improve individual performance and at the same time, play a vital role in advancing regional economic development, employment and wealth creation capabilities. *Conditions Apply

The Territory Business Growth program supports the second key point of focus "Building Business Capability" in the *Northern Territory Defence Support Industry Development Strategy 2007-20017*.

Keep an eye out in future editions of this newsletter for testimonials on the benefits of completing business growth. In the meantime, to find out more about planning for better business with the Territory Business Growth or other Northern Territory Government business support programs:

- Call 1800 193 111 and ask for a Client Manager to make an appointment
- Visit www.nt.gov.au/business
- Email business.growth@nt.gov.au

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