

Informed employers – happy staff

Do you own a small business that is looking at employing, or has recently employed staff, but are unsure of your obligations as an employer?

Would you like the reassurance that you are following correct procedures in matters such as taxation, employment awards, workers compensation and occupational health and safety?

The Employment Essentials workshop run by the Department of Business Economic and Regional Development (DBERD) will provide you with all the basics that you need to know to ensure that you are meeting your requirements as an employer.

Many issues will be covered in this informative workshop including understanding the new Industrial Reform Policy and how it will impact on your business, using appropriate recruitment procedures and understanding your duty of care as an employer.

Belinda Anderson, part owner of Alice Springs business Urban and Rural Contracting, attended the employment essentials workshop last year and found it of great benefit to the business.

‘The workshop was a good refresher on our procedures and a convenient reference to ensure that what we were doing was correct,’ Belinda said, ‘and it was good to have the consultants there to answer questions.’

Following her attendance at several DBERD workshops during 2007, Belinda said that each one gave her handy tips that were helpful to the business.

‘We will be sending our recently employed new staff member along to DBERD Upskills workshops this year to help her learn all basics.’

Workshop presenter Doug Gillanders from Biznorth Pty Ltd, said the workshop really is an overview of human resource management and employers obligations in regards to regulatory requirements.

‘We will also be concentrating on assisting businesses to create an attractive work environment for employees, and this will indirectly help address skill shortages,’ Mr Gillanders said.

The thought of taking on extra staff in your business need not be daunting and if you take advantage of this informative and easy to understand forum to increase your knowledge as an employer, you may well recognise that expanding your operation is an achievable goal.

The workshop is to be held on Wednesday 2 April at the Alice Springs Resort, 34 Stott Terrace from 5.30pm to 8.30pm.

Register online at www.nt.gov.au/upskills or for more information call (08) 8951 8524.