



**Regional
Development**
Australia
B R I S B A N E



RDA now an Innovation Scorecard Partner

RDA Brisbane has signed up as a collaborating partner in the 2012 Brisbane Innovation Scorecard, an initiative of Brisbane Marketing which aims to measure and showcase highly innovative Brisbane businesses, and celebrate innovation as a key driver of the city's economic prosperity.

The Scorecard initiative involves research, benchmarking and the development of case studies which culminate in an annual Scorecard publication, and a luncheon to celebrate the achievements of Brisbane's business innovators.

The RDA will sponsor additional research to evaluate and collect information on Brisbane's high productivity exporters. This will involve a survey of around 300 businesses, undertaken by the University of Queensland, to help benchmark the export sector and assess the relationship between innovation performance and productivity. Leading innovators identified through the survey will also be selected for inclusion in the Scorecard publication.

Other partners in the 2012 Scorecard include Deloitte, UQ Business School, Brisbane City Council, the Queensland Government and Enterprise Connect.

The Scorecard is part of Brisbane Marketing's Enable2012 Program to help drive long-term economic growth by: showcasing Brisbane as a prosperous and entrepreneurial city; attracting leading companies to locate in Brisbane; promoting world class knowledge and innovation clusters; and encouraging collaboration between industry, commerce, education and research.

For more information on the project contact RDA Regional Development Officer Tracy Scott-Rimington on **0433 346 344** or tracysr@rdabrisbane.org.au

Brisbane Linkages

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Forum leads to action on transport issues in the Australia TradeCoast South area

A new working party has been formed to develop innovative solutions to public transport and connectivity issues in the Australia TradeCoast South/Port of Brisbane area.

RDA Brisbane's recent **Bayside-Industry Transport Forum**, organised in conjunction with The Smith Family Partnership Brokers, provided the catalyst for the group's formation; nearly 40 attendees from industry, government, schools, transport providers, job agencies and training organisations gathered at the Port of Brisbane Office on May 28 to discuss new approaches to addressing public transport inadequacies in the precinct.

Options examined included community transport services, local industry-based transport and carpooling which utilises GPS and smart phone technology to identify and bring together workers headed for the same area. Low awareness of current services and options amongst current and prospective workers was also identified as an issue; in some cases transport service routes exist but are underutilised.

The new working party comprises representatives from the RDA, The Smith Family Partnership Brokers, Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd, Australia TradeCoast Ltd, Translink, Brisbane City Council,

TransitCare, the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR), Max Employment, the Supply Chain Logistics Association of Australia and Brisbane Bayside College. The group will develop a pilot project which may utilise community transport, carpooling and existing private bus services to complement Translink services.

The RDA would like thank expert facilitator

Toby Travanner, who also helmed the 2011 Asia Pacific Cities Summit in Brisbane, for his outstanding work at the forum.

For more information on the forum or working party, contact Margaret Blade on **3235 4874** or margaret.blade@rdabrisbane.org.au



The Port of Brisbane is part of the Australia TradeCoast industrial area – the second-largest employment node in Queensland, with 1500 businesses employing some 60,000 people. A 2011 survey identified that employment will grow by 8000 in the next 12 months but the largest inhibitor to industry growth in the precinct is a lack of public transport access for workers.



From left: David Avery (Max Employment), Ross Fittler (Gateway Connections), Lars Hall (The Smith Family), David Hertweck (Port of Brisbane Pty Ltd), Cr Peter Cumming (Brisbane City Council), Stuart Davies, (Community Transport Services Tasmania), Dane McCracken (Australia TradeCoast Ltd), Chris Euston (Brisbane Bayside College), Margaret Blade (RDA Brisbane), Toby Travanner (Facilitator), Nikki Lodding (TransitCare), David Woods (TransitCare).

RDA Brisbane to help promote Telework

RDA Brisbane is an official partner in National Telework Week (November 12-16) an Australian Government initiative which will showcase the benefits of working from home.

The RDA will help promote the benefits of NBN-enabled telework to businesses and not-for-profit organisations, showing how it can improve their operations and promote a better work-life balance for employees, as well as reducing traffic congestion. The RDA itself already uses teleworking with its staff and has a telework policy. The RDA's **CLICK! digital expo** (see details, right) will be held at the start of Telework week on Monday 12 November, and is expected to showcase telework benefits. For more information on Telework, [CLICK HERE](#).



New funding for NBN promotion

RDA Brisbane is one of seven RDAs around the country to receive funding from the Australian Government to develop community engagement strategies to capitalise on the rollout of the National Broadband Network (NBN).

Minister for Regional Australia Simon Crean made the funding announcement at the RDA National Conference in Adelaide on May 16, with a total of \$200,000 awarded to selected RDA committees in Stage One and Stage Two NBN rollout areas, to help their communities understand and get ready for the new infrastructure. RDA Brisbane has received \$25,000 to conduct a digital capability survey of not-for-profit organisations and organise a digital expo (see right for details), with outcomes to be shared across the entire RDA network.

Minister Crean also singled out SEQ RDAs for praise at the conference, noting their high level of regional collaboration; an SEQ RDA Coordinator will soon be appointed to work on cross-regional RDA priorities and initiatives on behalf of the Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay, Ipswich & West Moreton, Logan & Redlands and Darling Downs & South West RDAs.

Minister Simon Crean (far right) and Senator Jan McLucas (second from left) meet with SEQ RDA Chairs, Deputy Chairs and Executive Officers at the RDA National Conference including RDA Brisbane Chair & Deputy Chair John Shepley & Linda Carroli (back, centre) and EO Margaret Blade (front, 4th from left)



CLICK! digital expo

CONNECT LEARN INNOVATE CREATE & KICKSTART

YOUR DIGITAL FUTURE



SOFITEL
BRISBANE CENTRAL

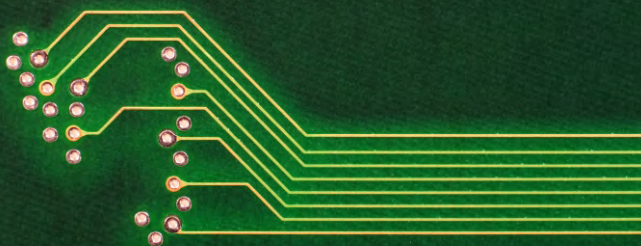
Sponsors & exhibitors sought for Nov expo

RDA Brisbane will hold a major digital expo in November to help small and medium-sized enterprises and not-for-profit groups unlock the potential of the new digital economy, and leverage the benefits of high speed broadband.

The **CLICK! digital expo** (**Connect, Learn, Innovate, Create & Kickstart your digital future**) will be held at Sofitel Brisbane Central on 12 November 2012 (the start of National Telework Week). The event is expected to feature up to 40 exhibitors of online tools, services and technologies to help increase the productivity of SMEs across all industry groups and the not-for-profit sector. A program of free workshops on topics relevant to the target market, case studies of successful enterprises and interactive demonstrations are also planned.

The RDA is currently seeking potential sponsors and exhibitors for the expo; call RDA Executive Officer Margaret Blade on **3235 4874** for more details or email mail@rdabrisbane.org.au to register for a prospectus (prospectus and expo website coming soon).

The event is being organised with the support of a digital engagement working party comprising representatives from: the Australian Information Industry Association; Brisbane City Council; the Department of Science, Information Technology, Innovation and the Arts; the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning; the Australian Government's Enterprise Connect initiative; Metropolitan South Institute of TAFE; Small Business Solutions; and National ICT Australia.





Clean Technology Innovation Program opening soon

Does your business have a smart idea or innovation which could reduce greenhouse gas emissions or energy consumption?

The Australian Government's \$200 million Clean Technology Innovation Program is a competitive, merit-based grants program supporting research and development, proof of concept and early stage commercialisation activities that lead to the development of new clean technologies and associated services.

The program will provide grants between \$50,000 and \$5 million on a co-investment basis of one dollar of government funding for each one dollar of the applicant's investment.

To find out more, and to receive program updates, please register your interest with the AusIndustry Hotline on 13 28 46 or hotline@ausindustry.gov.au

AusIndustry Clean Technology grants help manufacturers reduce energy costs

The Australian Government has announced the first 13 grants from the \$1 billion Clean Technology Investment Programs, aimed at helping manufacturers reduce their energy bills and become more efficient, sustainable and competitive.

The initial grants - five from the **Clean Technology Investment Program** and eight from the **Clean Technology Food and Foundries Investment Program** - are worth \$8.1 million and will help businesses install over \$23 million of energy efficient equipment.

Projects funded include a new refrigeration system, voltage regulators, more efficient air conditioning and new packaging processes. Successful grant recipients include a specialised engineering firm, manufacturers of aluminium cans and building materials, wine makers and food processors.

Over the coming years the Clean Technology Investment Programs are expected to support around 3,000 projects to help manufacturers reduce their energy use. **Manufacturers can apply at any time** and AusIndustry will work with businesses to promote the programs and help with applications.

For a list of the first 13 grants [CLICK HERE](#). For more information on the Clean Technology Investment Programs [CLICK HERE](#).



The Smith Family survey of Brisbane employers

Brisbane employers are invited to participate in a short survey to gauge support for local schools in the Brisbane area.

The survey is an initiative of The Smith Family School Business Community Partnership Broker Program (funded by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations) and is aimed at developing rewarding partnerships to benefit businesses and the community into the future. If you have any queries, please contact Stuart Barker at The Smith Family on 3267 2236 or email stuart.barker@thesmithfamily.com.au

Please [CLICK HERE](#) to begin the survey.



The National Compact

RDA Brisbane has signed up as a National Compact Partner.

The National Compact: working together is an agreement between the Australian Government and the not-for-profit sector to find new and better ways of working together based on mutual trust, respect and collaboration. The Compact is based on a shared vision, purpose, principles and aspirations. Its implementation is focused on eight priority actions and is

aligned with the Government's reform agenda relating to the not-for-profit sector and social inclusion. For more information or to sign up as a partner, go to www.nationalcompact.gov.au

National Compact



Lord Mayor's Business Awards open for nominations



Nominations are now open for the 2012 Lord Mayor's Business Awards, to be held on 31 October 2012 at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Now in their seventh year, the awards celebrate the achievements and exceptional contributions of businesses and individuals to Brisbane.

This year's award categories include: Business Growth; Corporate Citizenship; Business Person of the Year; Sustainability in Business; Business Innovation; New Investment; Business Creativity; Employer of Choice; and Young Business Person of the Year.

For more info or to download nomination forms, go to www.lmba.com.au



An Australian Government Initiative



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