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EMICoL eNews June 2008

Message from the Chairman

The EMICoL (Engineering and Manufacturing Industry Cooperative Limited) Directors and support team provided through the EMRC have been very active over the last twelve months in setting up the cooperative to succeed into the future and undertaking activities that the members have identified as priorities. The membership and sponsorship packs and promotional activities aimed at securing existing and new members have formed a key focus of work in recent months. EMICoL has also been pursuing promotional opportunities in a range of other areas including sponsor events, industry forums and member activities.

The Australian Industry Productivity Centres Business Review Service and the engineering industry breakfast function planned for 25 June 2008 are examples of activities that have spread the word on the great work being done by the cooperative

Key challenges for EMICoL over the coming months relate to securing the necessary resources to tackle the priority issues that have been identified by the Board and the members. There are a range of activities being progressed (as detailed in this newsletter) and more on the drawing board as EMICoL establishes itself as an industry leader and peak body for its members and sponsors.

There are also some important events coming up such as the Members Forum on 24 June 2008 and the EMICoL AGM on 22 July 2008. We look forward to catching up with existing and new members at these events.

Wishing you all the best and kind regards

Peter Hill
EMICoL Chairman

EMICoL Members Forum and AGM

The next EMICoL Members Forum will be held on at 6.00pm on 24 June 2008 at the EMRC Administration Office, Level 1, 226 Great Eastern Highway, Belmont. Please lock this into your diaries. All existing, new and potential EMICoL Members are strongly encouraged to attend and support this important networking and information event. Invitation flyers will be sent out prior to this event as a reminder. The EMICoL Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held at 6.00pm on Tuesday 22 July 2008 at the EMRC Administration Office. An agenda and nomination forms will be sent out to Members at least 2 weeks prior to the AGM seeking nominations for the two Director positions, which will expire at the AGM.

Productivity Audits

One of the member benefits recently negotiated by EMICoL was a successful application for members, who have an annual turnover of one million dollars or more, to take part in the Australian Industry Productivity Centres Business Review Service.

The review findings identify areas of your firm where improvements may lead to significant benefits. The Business Adviser undertaking the review will facilitate an action planning session with you to develop a plan to address any issues you consider critical. Areas where you may require strategic direction can include any of the following:

- Customers and external environment
- Financial
- Human resources management
- Innovation and investment
- Manufacturing and services.

Based on action plan outcomes, government funding is available to match your expenditure up to the value of \$20,000 for implementing your action plan. Members who have submitted applications and are now at various stages in the process include:

- Wallis Drilling
- Project Industries
- Primary Sales
- Specialised Welding
- CVR Crushing Equipment
- Precision Sheet Metal
- Ironmonger Fabrications
- Panto.

For those members who were not eligible to qualify, it is hoped that the above members will share some of the positive outcomes with other EMICoL members.

Membership and Sponsorship Drive

Following the preparation of the Member and Associate/Sponsor Application Packs launched at the March 2008 Members Forum, the EMICoL Directors have been very active in following up existing EMICoL Members to secure membership renewals and contacting new members to determine their interest in joining EMICoL.

Confirmed membership from existing Members as at the end of May 2008 included PG Hill and Associates Pty Ltd, Project Industries, Mine Site Construction Services, Wallis Drilling Pty Ltd, Panto Pty Ltd, CVR Crushing Equipment, Ironmonger Fabrications Pty Ltd, Precision Jobbing, Primary Sales, Australia Precision Sheet Metal and McDowall Affleck Pty Ltd. New Members to date include Horgan Steel Fabrication, Goodwill Engineering and Pirtek (Malaga) Pty Ltd. Welcome to all existing and new Members and the EMICoL Board looks forward to your participation and input over the 2008/09 period.

EMICoL is also proud to announce its first group of foundation sponsors including Bohler Uddeholm Australia, Pacific Safety Wear and Palfinger.

LEAPS Project

From the observations of the Board and its members, it was noted that there are many initiatives from the Government to attract youth to industry however we would like to offer a structure that we believe would be unique in its field on workplace learning. As an industry group, EMICoL believes that its members can

offer the participants (particularly youth), a memorable experience which will allow them to develop skills, knowledge and attributes to assist with career choices.

The model that we have developed allows industry to work with schools and college programs to provide young people with a number of structured experiences with EMICoL members. Learning Engineering Awareness and Pre-employment Skills (LEAPS) is a project based approach to providing skills and first hand experiences in a number of different engineering environments.

Relationships between the participating schools, TAFE as the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and Industry will develop into a strong influence on those seeking experiences in the engineering and manufacturing trade's area in order to make an informed decision on their career path.

EMICoL has secured funding from Swan Alliance Inc, a not-for-profit organisation funded by the Federal Government to deliver the Local Community Partnerships program, to initiate the LEAPS program and will be seeking ideas from members on how to get the most benefit from this innovative approach

to attracting youth to the engineering and manufacturing industry in the region.

EMICoL Website

The EMICoL website is progressing well and is expected to be finalised by the end of the year. The website is based on a simple and interactive menu that is easy to follow and focuses on Members and Sponsors, with the ability to provide hyperlinks to Member and Sponsor websites and include promotional and advertising opportunities. The website is flexible and can be added to over time. For example, there is allowance for the incorporation of a content management system function to accommodate databases such as the Capabilities Register, in the future. It is proposed to show EMICoL Members the progress made on the website at the Members Forum on 24 June 2008.

In this issue

- Message from the Chairman
- EMICoL Members Forum
- Productivity Audits
- Membership & Sponsorship Drive
- LEAPS Project
- EMICoL Website

Next Members' Forum

24th June 2008
at 6.00pm
at EMRC, 226 Great
Eastern Hwy Belmont

Annual General

Meeting (AGM)
22nd July 2008
at 6.00pm
at EMRC, 226 Great
Eastern Hwy Belmont

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