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# EMICoL eNews September 2008

## Report on AGM

The EMRC has provided support to the Engineering and Manufacturing Industry Cooperative Limited (EMICoL) as part of the industry cluster initiative and the cooperative is in the process of being transferred to industry during 2008/09.

As a result of EMICoL's inaugural AGM held at the EMRC on the 22nd July 2008, the EMICoL Board would like to welcome new Director Michael Scally.

Mike Scally is currently the Divisional Director of Engineering, Metals and Mining for Swan TAFE. The Division is highly diverse and covers a broad range of qualifications from Certificate 1 to Advanced Diploma in a wide range of industries. Mike has extensive industrial and commercial expertise in both Private and Public Sector Management. Mike comes from an Electrical Trade background and possesses Post Trade qualifications in Electrical Engineering, Management and Education.

It is also our pleasure to advise that upon expiry of his original term, Kevin Davis has been re-elected to the Board and joins the continuing Directors Peter Hill (Chairman); John Morris (Deputy Chairman) and Joseph Caruso. We would also like to acknowledge Stephen Gullery, who did not seek re-election, for his support and work on the Board over EMICoL's inaugural year.

In addition, resolutions approved the appointment of Greg Wylie as EMICoL's Auditor for 2008/09 and a Directors sitting fees of \$100 per meeting, subject to the availability of funds to meet associated costs.

## **Upcoming Events !**

An informative and exciting schedule of events has been organised to the end of the year to provide members with information on topics relevant to current issues such as training, auditing, increasing profit and employment recruitment and retention strategies.

In addition to this, EMICoL representatives will be attending a number of TAFE and University of WA breakfasts, where EMICoL has been given an opportunity to present information about the group and recent projects.

The events scheduled will be posted on the EMICoL website for your information and are:

### **EMICoL Forums 2008**

#### **October 2008**

- Hofmann Industry Forum Wednesday 21 October 2008 6.00pm-8.30pm

#### Speakers:

Hofmann Engineering- Tony Sutton

Swan TAFE- Mike Scally

LEAPS Project- Kevin Davis

#### **November 2008**

- Learnings from the Australian Industry Productivity Centre Audits (AIPC) Wednesday 26 November 2008

#### Speakers:

To be confirmed

EMICoL Directors and Members will be showcasing EMICoL initiatives and success stories to a wider industry audience at the upcoming TAFE/UWA breakfasts hosted by Swan TAFE at UWA where representatives from EMICoL will be presenting over the next two months:

## October

- Topic: Engineering Fabrication & Welding EMICoL Speaker: Verriers Engineering-Craig Verrier

Topic: Electrical Instrumentation EMICoL Speaker: Swan TAFE-Michael Scally

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## Next Members' Forums

- Hofmann Industry Forum  
Wed 21 October 2008  
6.00pm – 8.30pm  
Hofmann Engineering,  
3 Alice Street Bassendean
- Learnings from the  
Australian Industry  
Productivity Centre  
Wed 26 November 2008  
6.00pm – 8.30pm  
Venue to be advised

## November

- Topic: Mining OH&S, Frontline Management EMICoL Speaker: Minesite Construction Services-Joseph Caruso

# Case Studies- Project Industries

*John Morris*

## **Productivity Audits- A Major Success**

I am delighted with the results and feedback that I have had from our members who have participated in the above. It is not too late for your organisation to find out if they eligible to apply for a grant under the EMICoL group application.

- EMICoL Members companies who have now completed the review include Wallis Drilling, CVR Crushing Equipment, Primary Sales and Project Industries. The following testimonial from one of our members speaks for itself:

“Overall the process and the venting of several spleens has produced a business review that we can use to help improve our processes and conduct a business risk analysis resulting in a better more viable business. Several areas for improvement which could gain federal funding have been highlighted. We will be applying for this funding to help improve our business and its systems making us more competitive.”

“Thankyou EMICoL for presenting this opportunity to us as we are very busy with the day to day stresses of business so usually do not get the time to attend the multitude of seminars or presentations offered to us as a once in a lifetime chance. This selection of such a beneficial program for our members is most appreciated.” The Enterprise Connect Manufacturing Network offers a range of services and support to help Australian small and medium enterprises access new skills, technologies and to build their internal capacity and capability.

## **Business Review**

The Business Review is a comprehensive analysis of the firm, carried out on-site, by skilled and experienced Business Advisers. During this time you will have the opportunity to review:

- the strengths and weaknesses of the firm
- strategic business issues
- potential areas for business improvement
- potential areas for growth

## **Group Business Review**

The Business Review service is available to groups of firms which have a common business interest. This is well regarded because each firm will learn more than if accessing the services individually.

## **Tailored Advisory Services**

Upon completion of the Business Review, firms are eligible for grants up to \$20,000 (excluding GST), to be matched by the firm, to implement the

recommendations using Tailored Advisory Services provided by industry experts and consultants.

The Directors of EMICoL are aware that we have several other members of our cooperative who have been accepted and would strongly recommend that they complete their review in order to reap the benefits that this great scheme can offer. Likewise, if you think your company is eligible to access the support being provided by the new Australian Industry Productivity Centres then do not hesitate to contact EMICoL for assistance at [emicol@emrc.org.au](mailto:emicol@emrc.org.au)

## **Verriers Engineering**

*Elda Kingston*

Verriers Engineering Services

### **Verriers Awarded**

#### ***WA Small Business of the Year 2008***

The Department of Education and Training WA Training Awards 2008 have awarded EMICoL member Verriers Engineering Services WA Small Business of the Year 2008.

The family owned and operated business has been supporting the transport, mining, agriculture and food industries for over 60 years.

Craig and Cathy Verrier believe that training should be an integral part of any business and concentrate much of their efforts into training and mentoring apprentices.

Verriers Engineering works closely with volunteer activities in high schools and the community taking a proactive approach in promoting quality training and industry opportunities for youth.

Congratulations on this prestigious award.

## **LEAPS Project- Update**

*Antonella Segre*

The EMICoL LEAPS program has taken off in “leaps and bounds” with members having rallied together and opening their doors to school Industry visits.

The 12th of September will see a joint venture between Project Industries and Goodwill Engineering, taking twenty year 11 and 12 students through their businesses from Balga SHS, who have a keen interest in Manufacturing.

Both organisations have been proactive in developing an interactive tour specifically catered for this age group.

Hofmann Engineering, in the persona of Peter Middleton together with their 2007

Apprentice of the Year, will be heading up to Bullsbrook District High School on the 16th of September to address year 10 and 11 students, regarding the exciting and diverse career pathways available in Manufacturing and Engineering industries. On the 18th of September, Goodwill Engineering will be hosting a tour for year 9 students from Kalamunda Education Support Centre. The school principal was thrilled at the opportunity, being a first for her middle school students with special needs to be exposed to this industry area.

As part of the LEAPS Project and funding received from the Federal Government, a technical committee made up of Project Industries, Wallis Drilling and Verriers Engineering have been hard at work developing a hands-on Project for students to do during their Structured Workplace Learning Placement in 2009.

Working collaboratively with Swan TAFE Midland, students will have the opportunity to access a two day course covering OHS topics, metal joining, and measuring, and basic hand tool theory prior to their placement. Pacific Safety, one of our member sponsors, has kindly offered to provide uniforms for 20 students! An official booklet with the program overview and technical project design will be developed and the program will be launched through the education districts in October 2008.

## **EMICoL Training Initiatives**

### ***Mike Scally***

In recent discussions with the EMICoL Board of Directors and Members, an urgent need to promote and market Engineering and Fabrication as a highly valued and prosperous career option has been identified.

These career options would apply to school leavers and existing unskilled workers as well as the need to promote training and up-skilling as a worth while return on investment to industry.

As a result, a number of initiatives between EMICoL and TAFE have been developed to address these issues. The following list of programs are being developed or implemented in response to this industry concern:

1. The LEAPS program for high schools students
2. A Certificate 1 family of trades program for high school students
3. The Fast track apprenticeship system for mature age workers
4. The Transforming Trades delivery model

EMICoL in conjunction with Swan TAFE are holding a series of short information and debate forums on many topics with the aim to get industry perspective on these issues.

You will notice a number of Member Forums will be scheduled from now to Christmas and will also be held at industry premises thanks to hosting

organisations who are keen to get involved and showcase their own initiatives to the members and other interested guests.

We look forward to your input and attendance at these meetings with a view to create momentum to keep industry involved and open forums for ideation and the development of opportunities.

We urge you to attend the first of this series of forums, the first being hosted at Hofmann Engineering in October. Please see event schedule or refer to our website for further information.

I look forward to seeing you there.

## **WELL Funding (Workplace English Language and Literacy program)**

WELL funding is a Commonwealth Government grant-seeding fund to support the cost of workplace training in workplaces. In partnership with RTO's employers can apply for funding to reduce their cash costs for providing training at their workplace. There is an opportunity for EMICoL small and medium business members to apply for funding as a cluster. West Coast TAFE whom is the WELL funding provider will support members in developing and completing the application form. For further information and an information pack contact Antonella Segre at [antsegre@iinet.net.au](mailto:antsegre@iinet.net.au)

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