

MEDIA RELEASE



For immediate release
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INNOVATE SA LAUNCHED TO GROW LOCAL BUSINESSES

A new door to global growth has been opened for innovative South Australian businesses.

Innovate SA was officially launched at its new city office in Adelaide yesterday (October 26) with an open invitation for local growth-oriented businesses to come knocking.

Innovate SA Chief Executive Greg Boundy said the State's economic future would "shine or shudder" on the State's ability to turn our innovative ideas into commercial success.

"I want to expose, encourage and exploit innovation in this State," Mr Boundy said.

"The business community is brimming with outstanding business ideas, services and products.

"But turning this innovation into commercial success is not a fait accompli.

"We hear too many stories of South Australian companies that could have and should have made it on the global arena, only to be brought down at the last hurdle.

"By either helping a business get on the right growth track or by unlocking the last door to global markets and the path to business sustainability, Innovate SA aims to assist at least 2000 local enterprises in our first year alone."

With 23 staff located across its City, North and South offices, Innovate SA has been established with the prime objective of fostering innovation and growth among emerging and established SA businesses.

Innovate SA will assist businesses looking to develop innovative products, services, processes and business models by providing independent advice, a detailed diagnostic service, grant funding assistance and referrals to match business needs with solutions.

Born out of the former SA Centre for Innovation, Innovate SA has been repositioned at arm's length of Government.

"The South Australian business community wants to deal with an independent organisation with high level expertise and great networks," Mr Boundy said.

"Even more importantly, CEOs, business owners and managers want to deal with people who have considerable experience in the private arena, which is the case at Innovate SA.

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“Our advisers have worked with large multi-nationals right through to running their own businesses, so they understand the challenges facing many enterprises.

“Our Chairman David Simmons is one of South Australia’s most respected business leaders. We are privileged to have someone of David’s calibre on our Board along with other leaders in industry and the tertiary sector.”

A former director of the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED), Mr Boundy has 20 years’ industry experience at general manager level in SA across the electronics and communications, whitegoods and publishing sectors.

Innovate SA builds on a collaboration of key organisations including DTED, industry associations, universities and the Federal Government’s Enterprise Connect Network. Its offices are located at 19 Grenfell Street in the City, Innovation House West at Mawson Lakes and the Mark Oliphant Building at Bedford Park.

The North and South offices have a specific focus on regional economic development issues with the Mawson Innovation and the Flinders Innovation Precincts.

Innovate SA will be holding a series of Open House days for businesses on November 6, 13 and 20 from 4pm. To find out more go to: www.innovatesa.com.au

Yesterday’s launch at Innovate SA’s City office was attended by more than 70 South Australian business leaders with the Deputy Premier, The Hon. Kevin Foley, officiating.

For more information or to organise an interview please contact Corporate Conversation on 08-8224 3535.