

FREE WORKSHOPS

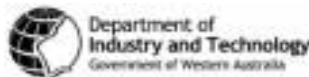
The Welding Technology Institute of Australia (WTIA), in conjunction with the Department of Industry, Tourism & Resources (DITR), and other industry associations, is holding a series of free workshops across Australia in Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Sydney during the week beginning 2nd December 2002.

It is anticipated that the representatives of approximately 20 companies and organisations in each venue would participate in a facilitated brainstorming session on how they could work together with AusIndustry and the industry associations to improve the take-up of technology in Australian companies.

You are cordially invited to attend and contribute your views to meeting the stated objectives.



INDUSTRY
TOURISM
RESOURCES



REGISTRATION FORM

TECHNOLOGY DIFFUSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMPANIES IN THE STEEL FABRICATION, CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED INDUSTRIES

The Events Coordinator, WTIA Federal Office
PO Box 6165, SILVERWATER, NSW, 1811
Phone: (02) 9748 4443 Fax: (02) 9748 2858
WTIA ABN 69 003 696 526

Surname: _____ First Name: _____

Position: _____ Company Name: _____

No of full time employees: _____ Type of Products: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

E-mail: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

VENUES

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Perth | AMTC | 2 nd December 2002 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Adelaide | CIBM | 3 rd December 2002 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Melbourne | IRIS | 4 th December 2002 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Brisbane | QMI Solutions | 5 th December 2002 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Sydney | Lidcombe TAFE | 6 th December 2002 |

Delegates will receive appropriate handouts, and light refreshments will be provided after the workshop

CANCELLATION

Receipt of this booking is a commitment to attend the workshop. The Events Coordinator must be notified of cancellations 5 working days prior to the event. Replacement delegates will be accepted. WTIA reserves the right to cancel the workshops due to insufficient registrations or other reasons beyond its control. Confirmation of bookings will be sent to delegates upon registration.



The WTIA has joined forces with industry and government and created a 3.5 million dollar Technology Support Centres Network. This Network assists industry to identify and exploit world's best technology and manufacturing methods to establish a vibrant Australian industry beyond 2001. Together we are implementing a step-by-step process that will lead to ongoing viability and greater profitability for all concerned:

- (1) Determine your technological and manufacturing needs;
- (2) Identify world's best practice;
- (3) Draw upon the network to implement world's best practice at your site.

TECHNOLOGY DIFFUSION OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMPANIES

in the
STEEL FABRICATION AND CONSTRUCTION AND RELATED COATING AND SURFACE TREATMENT INDUSTRY SECTORS



FREE WORKSHOPS

2002 Venues

13:30 – 17:30

Perth	AMTC	2nd December
Adelaide	CIBM	3rd December
Melbourne	IRIS	4th December
Brisbane	QMI Solutions	5th December
Sydney	Lidcombe TAFE	6th December

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Representatives of Steel Fabricators, Constructors, Erectors, Maintenance and Repair Organisations, Surface Treatment Companies including Coatings, Painting, Installation and Galvanising, Inspection and Test Companies, Designers and Detailers, Project Management Companies, Companies in other relevant areas such as Plastics and Tooling.

INTRODUCTION

During the past two years, a number of important initiatives have taken place to assist the steel fabrication and construction industry to improve its performance and competitiveness in global markets. These include the Heavy Engineering and Infrastructure Action Agenda (HEIAA), the formation of the National Infrastructure and Engineering Forum (NIEF) and the promotion of a national approach to Technology Diffusion. Also, the Prime Minister's Statement "Backing Australia's Ability: An Innovation Action Plan for the Future" has resulted in funds being available to assist companies, particularly Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs), to access technology through the DITR AusIndustry Innovation Access Programme (IAccP). Industry sectors and State/Territory Governments also have taken additional initiatives.

CHALLENGES

Working in a team effort, industry, State and Territory Governments and Federal Government are striving to find ways and means to access not just the 2% of new technological R&D outputs derived in Australia, but also the other 98% outputs available globally for use by Australian companies. This creates the additional big challenge of how companies can better access existing global information and implement it.

A number of programmes have been established through the IAccP to assist companies, in particular SMEs. Examples include, amongst others:

- Global Best Practice Site Visits
- Global Experts working with Groups of SMEs at the shop floor level
- SMEs working together through Better Integration of Technology and Processes
- Technology Roadmapping
- National Networks

A number of companies have successfully utilised these programmes to improve the financial performance of their bottom line and an important challenge is to include as many Australian companies as possible in deriving the benefits of these programmes.

OBJECTIVES OF WORKSHOP

The purpose of the workshops is to:

- Inform companies of the opportunities available to access better technology as well as identify the constraints on companies in investing in, and implementing, such technology.
- Create opportunities for firms to access and diffuse technologies that maintain or increase their international competitiveness.
- Working either on their own or with industry associations and other companies to establish viable projects for support by the IAccP.

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

The programme has been structured to obtain as much interactive discussion as possible. Speakers from industry will present case studies on how they have utilised the opportunities in technology diffusion to improve the performance of their companies. A facilitated brainstorming session will take place to highlight the needs of companies, particularly SMEs, in the steel fabrication construction industry. Also, the constraints inhibiting such companies from utilising the technology available will be identified.

Discussion will take place on ways and means in which the industry can cooperate to generate potential projects which might receive financial support from the Commonwealth with the support of industry associations. A leading person from industry will be appointed as Chairman in each State. The discussions will be facilitated by Chris Smallbone, Executive Director, WTIA and attended by representatives of both DITR and the local State Government.

PROGRAMME

13:00 – 13:30	Registration
13:30 – 13:40	Opening, Welcome and Introductions
13:40 – 14:10	Reasons for Workshop and Examples of Assistance Available for SMEs through the AusIndustry Innovation Access Programmes DITR Representative Local State Government Representative
14:10 – 14:40	Case Studies of Successful Technology Diffusion in SMEs specific to the Steel Fabrication and Construction Industry ~ Global Best Practice Site Visits ~ Use of Global Experts by SMEs ~ SMEs Cooperating through Better Integrated Technology/Processes Industry speakers
14:40 – 14:55	Case Study of a Successful Technology Diffusion Network Chris Smallbone, WTIA
14:55 – 15:15	Questions and Tea/Coffee Break
15:15 – 16:15	Brainstorming on: ~ Needs of SMEs ~ Constraints on Use of Technology by SMEs
16:15 – 17:00	Ideas on Potential Projects
17:00 – 17:15	How to Meet the Requirements of the AusIndustry Innovation Access Programme DITR Representative
17:15 – 17:30	Action Plan to Achieve Initiation, Development and Implementation of Technology Diffusion Projects
17:30	Close & Refreshments

Chairmen

Perth: Ross McNeil, General Manager, Weldtronics Ltd
Adelaide: TBA
Melbourne: Denis George, Shedden Uhde Pty Ltd
Brisbane: Barry Kelly, Chairman, Heavy Engineering Industry Reference Group
Sydney: Alan Broome, Deputy Chairman/CEO NIEF/
Chairman, Austmine



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