

## WHO CAN ACCESS THE MANUFACTURING NETWORK?

Enterprise Connect is aimed at helping established SMEs that:

- Possess an Australian Company Number (ACN)
- Have turned over more than **\$2 million** and under **\$100 million** in the previous financial year
- Are solvent
- Are involved in manufacturing or part of a manufacturing supply chain
- Have been trading for the last three years (ie have filed Business Activity Statements for the last three consecutive years)
- Have not received similar assistance from other Government (Australian, State or Territory) programs within the last three years

## INNOVATION CENTRES

Australia faces some unprecedented business challenges over the next decade, including more intense competition from our regional trading partners, reduced labour supply and the significant economic, social and environmental challenge of climate change.

Through Enterprise Connect, Innovation Centres have been established to help SMEs in target industry sectors or regions access the support they need to grow their firms. The five Innovation Centres are:

- Clean Energy Enterprise Connect Centre
- Creative Industries Innovation Centre
- Innovative Regions Centre
- Mining Technology Innovation Centre
- Remote Enterprise Centre

Each Innovation Centre will focus on improving the performance of target SMEs by providing a range of services designed to link firms to new ideas, technologies and markets. Services include:

- A comprehensive Business Review and support to address the findings of the Review
- Ongoing advice as the SME embarks on implementing change
- Linking firms with the best market knowledge and research available
- Help with accessing other government programs and cutting red tape
- Industry intelligence, workshops and networking opportunities

## HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE ENTERPRISE CONNECT SERVICES?

The application process is simple and quick. Visit [www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au](http://www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au) to access Application Forms or call Enterprise Connect on 131 791.

## CONTACT ENTERPRISE CONNECT

For more information, call Enterprise Connect on **131 791** or visit **[www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au](http://www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au)**.



# ENTERPRISE CONNECT MANUFACTURING NETWORK



An Australian Government Initiative



[www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au](http://www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au)



An Australian Government Initiative



[www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au](http://www.enterpriseconnect.gov.au)

“As a result of implementing the recommendations of the Business Review, we believe we’ll be 30% more productive.”

- Martin Tanti, Avoca Engineering

Enterprise Connect is a \$200 million Australian Government initiative that delivers practical support to thousands of small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

Enterprise Connect will help position Australian SMEs to be more competitive in an increasingly global marketplace through increased productivity and profitability, and innovation.

It also aims to strengthen the links between industry and sources of knowledge, including the research sector, by providing access to the latest information and technology.

Enterprise Connect is administered by the Department of Innovation, Industry, Science and Research and uses industry experts and partners to deliver a comprehensive range of services to eligible SMEs.

### ENTERPRISE CONNECT SERVICES

Enterprise Connect comprises two main components - the **Manufacturing Network**, which provides manufacturers access to a range of services to help them become more productive and innovative - and **Innovation Centres**, which help SMEs in targeted industry sectors and regional areas access specialist support.

### THE MANUFACTURING NETWORK

One of the challenges of running a manufacturing business is accessing information and assistance regarding the latest processes, technology and market information to help improve efficiency and drive growth.

The Manufacturing Network is designed to meet this challenge. It helps SMEs get expert, tailored advice to improve productivity, build internal capacity and investigate new market opportunities.

The Manufacturing Network is made up of Manufacturing Centres in each State that operate in collaboration with partners. Forty-five Business Advisers work across the Network, ensuring SMEs in regional and metropolitan Australia have easy access to the Manufacturing Network services. The Business Advisers come from a variety of backgrounds and have extensive private sector experience at senior management levels.



### WHAT DOES THE MANUFACTURING NETWORK OFFER?

Eligible SMEs can receive:

- **A Business Review.**  
A highly skilled Business Adviser will work with firms to:
  - Assess the firm’s business strategy and current operations
  - Identify the strengths and weaknesses of the firm, including benchmarking against best practice
  - Help the firm access world-class business tools, processes and technology
  - Identify potential areas for improvement and growth
  - Identify how the firm can address these areas by providing a pathway forward

Each Business Review will take approximately four to five days and the Business Advisers will work around the firm’s commitments. It is provided at no financial cost to the firm.

### • Tailored Advisory Services

The Tailored Advisory Services help firms to implement the changes recommended by the Business Review by providing financial support and expert advice. Through Enterprise Connect, the Government will reimburse half the cost - up to a maximum of \$20,000 - to engage consultants to help with implementing the change projects, which might involve:

- Supply chain management
- Lean manufacturing/office
- Strategic business planning
- Resource management
- New product/service development
- Export strategy
- Business and quality management systems