



Bosch Australia Regional President of Automotive Electronics, **Patrick Ross**, is the new president of the **Society of Automotive Engineers – Australasia**. He holds a B Eng (Mech) and has enjoyed a long engineering management career with Bosch in Australia, the United Kingdom and in Germany. "The human aspect of the crisis is reflected in job losses as companies align staff levels with business needs, and there have been the predicted business closures," Mr Ross said. "These employment changes have impacted on Society members at both the design engineering and skilled technician levels. To assist members, we hope to soon introduce a new employment advisory service."

In a bid to reduce the risk of hand injury in the metal manufacturing industry, Pro-Visual Publishing is calling for greater education with their 2009/10 edition of the **Metal Manufacturing Industry Guide to Safety**. The Guide, which was sent out to metal product manufacturing businesses throughout Australia in June, emphasises that hand injuries can seriously affect a person's ability to do almost any job effectively and instructs metal manufacturing workers on how to reduce their risk of injury.

South East Business Network Manager, Sandra George, has been awarded the prestigious AME Jim Watkins Award for her outstanding contribution to the pursuit of manufacturing excellence. The award promoted by the Association for Manufacturing Excellence (AME) was presented to Sandra by the Minister for Trade & Industry, Mr Martin Pakula MP at the recent 2009 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame Gala Dinner. Ms George's first contact with manufacturing was in 1991 when she headed up the South East Taskforce - a federal government initiative set up to address record unemployment in the Dandenong, VIC, region at that time.

The Metalworking and CNC Machine Tool Show China will be staged this year from 3 to 7 November 2009 at the Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC). Currently in the tenth year of its existence, southeastern China's leading trade fair for machine tools, metalworking and metal processing is gearing up to reaffirm its role as a stable forum for generating business leads. According to expert prognoses, China is likely to emerge from the economic crisis sooner than other nations. A turnaround is already expected for the coming autumn, Deutsche Messe reports. Total economic growth in 2009 is expected to run at 8%.

Large companies in all manufacturing sub groups recorded the lowest pay increases over the past year of between 3.8% and 4%, all lower than the national average of 4.3%. **The Australian Institute of Management's National Salary Survey 2009** also shows the petrol and chemicals manufacturing sector to have recorded the lowest salary forecasts of 2.8% for the next year, compared to the national average of 3.5%. This downward trend can also be seen in the manufacturing job family in small companies, which recorded the lowest salary forecast for the coming year of 3%, significantly lower than the national average for small companies of 4.1%.

Cleveland Compressed Air Services

Boge appoints WA-based distributor

Perth – Boge Compressors has appointed Perth-based Cleveland Compressed Air Services as a distributor of the Boge range of compressors and ancillary equipment. Cleveland Compressed Air Services is a well established compressor house based in Maddington, Perth boasting over 15 years of experience and knowledge in the compressed air industry.

Chris O'Connor, Director of Cleveland Compressed Air Services comments: "Boge manufactures a comprehensive range of oil lubricated and oil free screw and piston compressors from 1 to 480 HP. The fact that Boge offers such a comprehensive range of compressors was an important factor in our decision to work with Boge as our customers can vary from the small to the large compressed air user. We were also impressed with the quality of these German engineered machines."

Cleveland Compressed Air Services specialises in industrial air compressors and primarily serves Perth as well as the wider WA state. With a team of dedicated service engineers they provide a comprehensive range of services to compressed air end users from sales, installation, rental and maintenance.



Cleveland Compressed Air Services, Perth, teams up with Boge Compressors. Photo: Boge

Federal government

Innovation fund opens

ACT – The Rudd government's \$83m Innovation Investment Follow-On Fund opened for applications on 5 June. Announcing the opening, Senator Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, encouraged eligible fund managers to apply for funding.

"The fund is a temporary, targeted response to address a lack of capital available to the most promising young innovative companies during the global recession," Senator Carr said. "It will enable these companies to continue to develop and to commercialise their products and services during this difficult period. The commercialisation of innovation is vital to Australia's prosperity and will continue to be strongly supported by this government."

Funding is available to fund managers currently licensed by the government through Rounds 1 and 2 of the Innovation Investment Fund, the Renewable Energy Equity Fund and the Pre Seed Fund as well as successful applicants under the ICT Incubators program. Fund managers may invest in early stage companies that have already received investment capital under these programs.

According to the government, the two new measures will assist firms commercialise their research through the establishment of a \$196.1m Commonwealth Commercialisation Institute and the introduction of an R&D Tax Credit. These initiatives are aimed at ensuring the best ideas developed by Australian universities, publicly funded research agencies and new enterprises are grown in Australia and become successful commercial realities.