

Media Release

The Hon Ben Carroll MP

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery

Minister for Business Precincts

Minister for Public Transport

Minister for Roads and Road Safety



Friday, 7 October 2022

New Kombucha Manufacturing Centre The Remedy For Jobs

The Andrews Labor Government is backing more manufacturing jobs in Melbourne, supporting a new, state-of-the-art kombucha manufacturing centre in Dandenong.

Minister for Industry Support and Recovery Ben Carroll visited Australia's largest kombucha maker Remedy Drinks' new \$43 million centre in Dandenong which has created 87 new jobs.

The company has combined all its operations, including research and development, manufacturing, warehousing and distribution operations, into the new 18,000 square metre site – the same size as the MCG.

With fermented tea drink growing in popularity around the world, the move will boost the company's production and exports to the United States, Canada, United Kingdom and Asia.

Remedy Drinks produces one of the world's only kombucha drinks that can be stored at room temperature without needing refrigeration, reducing energy use and transport costs.

Victoria has the largest and most established food and drinks manufacturing sector in the nation, valued at about \$38 billion and employing about 72,000 people.

The Labor Government is backing the state's advanced manufacturers to grow and innovate through initiatives including the *Manufacturing and Industry Development Fund*, which supports businesses to invest in new technology and equipment and stimulate job creation across the state.

As part of the *Victorian Budget 2022/23* the Labor Government is also investing \$120 million in the *Victorian Industry Fund* to boost local manufacturing and support the growth of businesses in key sectors like health, food production, technology and defence.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Industry Support and Recovery Ben Carroll

"We're proud to support local manufacturers with global ambitions like Remedy because their continued growth means more jobs for Victorians."

"Remedy's investment in new equipment and technologies in Victoria is testament to the fact that Victoria is the home of manufacturing in Australia."

Quote attributable to Member for South Eastern Metropolitan Region Lee Tarlamis

"Remedy's expansion and move to Dandenong highlights the area's status as a manufacturing powerhouse and is another example of the Government building a lasting legacy of creating jobs for generations."

Quote attributed to Managing Director of Remedy Drinks Chris Gillard

"The new Remedy Fermentary in Dandenong will allow us to deliver on significant increases in demand as well as provide opportunities for ongoing innovation, delivering better beverages across all drink categories."

Media contact: Mike Dolan 0474 909 471 | mike.dolan@minstaff.vic.gov.au