

Media Release

The Hon Natalie Hutchins MP
Minister for Jobs and Industry
Minister for Treaty and First Peoples
Minister for Women



Wednesday, 31 July 2024

INVESTING IN OUR LOCAL MANUFACTURERS TO REACH NEW HEIGHTS

The Allan Labor Government is helping manufacturers across Victoria expand operations and take their business to the next level – creating more local jobs while making Victoria’s manufacturing sector more globally competitive.

Minister for Jobs and Industry Natalie Hutchins today announced the recipients of the Labor Government’s *Made in Victoria – Manufacturing Growth Program*, with nine small and medium-sized Victorian manufacturers set to receive a grant of up to \$250,000 to take their manufacturing business from strength to strength.

The funding will make it easier for small and medium-sized manufactures to introduce new technologies and processes, improve productivity and competitiveness in local and global supply chains, upskill workers and create more highly-skilled jobs.

With the recipients based across Victoria and operating across a variety of sectors including food and beverage, construction, and packaging and transport, this program is helping secure a bright future for our local manufacturing sector.

Among the recipients is family-owned business Essential Flavours and Ingredients in Carrum Downs which will significantly upgrade its liquid manufacturing capabilities – helping the company grow its workforce by more than 40 per cent and expand its exports across the Asia Pacific.

The *Made in Victoria – Manufacturing Growth Program* is part of the Government’s work to support the state’s advanced manufacturers to innovate and grow production including the Government’s \$20 million *Manufacturing and Industry Sovereignty Fund* and the *Industry R&D Infrastructure Fund*.

Victoria’s \$33.5 billion manufacturing industry is a driving force of the state’s economy, made up of over 23,000 businesses, supporting more than 260,000 jobs and exporting goods worth \$23.9 billion.

For a full list of grant recipients, visit business.vic.gov.au/mgp2.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Industry and Jobs Natalie Hutchins

“Victoria is Australia’s manufacturing state – that’s why we’re backing these businesses to become more competitive and future-focused so more in-demand products can be made right here in Victoria.”

“These grants will help our manufacturers increase production, drive innovation, reach new markets and boost local jobs.”

Quote attributable to Member for Carrum Sonya Kilkenny

“We’re proud to help our local manufacturing businesses take their production from strength to strength – supporting more local jobs, skills and innovation right here in Carrum Downs.”

Quotes attributable to Essential Flavours CEO Tim Nielsen

“This funding will allow us to combine state-of-the-art equipment and technology, enhancing our production capabilities and enabling us to innovate further in the industry.”

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