

Monday, 27 August 2007

OPENING THE US GATE TO SA HIGH-TECH COMPANIES

Minister for Industry and Trade, Kevin Foley says South Australian technology companies continue to lead the way in taking their innovative products to the global stage.

“Following the success of companies like Rising Sun Research, which recently won a prestigious IT competition held in Silicon Valley, California, 10 local companies have signed up for a workshop designed to help them enter the US market,” Mr. Foley said.

The companies will receive first-hand and tailored advice from two experts on start-up businesses as part of the ANZA Technology Network’s Gateway to the US program.

American executives Chris Shipley and Dan Sapp will conduct the full-day workshop.

Chris Shipley has helped technology companies bring more than 1,000 new products to market since 1996 and has been placed by Fortune Small Business Magazine in its “Top 10 Minds in Small Business”. Dan Sapp is a business coach who has helped many early stage companies raise capital through both the private and public markets.

“The high level of interest in the workshop is yet another indication of our growing reputation as a hub for information, communications and technology,” Mr. Foley said.

“This is about helping businesses to find the right route to market otherwise it can be a very complex and expensive process.

“Young technology companies that have a product ready to compete in the world’s largest marketplace can gain strategic advice and get connected with the right people to meet the challenges of the US.”

Rising Sun Research, which was one of several ICT companies assisted by the Department of Trade and Economic Development during 2006, won the “hottest company” award for its product cineSync – a remote approval tool that allows people to review movies and images at the same time with anyone, anywhere in the world.

Among this year’s workshop participants include a medical technology company that has developed a world-first therapy protocol for visual impairment caused by brain damage, a signal processing technology which predicts maintenance schedules for trains and a company that has developed mobile phone applications for women.

ANZA is a not-for-profit network of technology executives from the US, Australia and New Zealand.

Local companies attending the workshop include Champagne for the Ladies, CentricMinds, Digislide, My Orthodontics, Neuro Vision Technology Pty Ltd, Proactive Technology Group, NetFox, Strategic Data Management, tallstoreez productionz pty ltd, and Vipac Engineers & Scientists Ltd.

Registrations can be made at: www.anzatechnet.com/programs_workshops.html