

It's granted, Redarc can charge ahead with jobs

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EXPORTER: Redarc boss Anthony Kittel is eyeing a deal with a US automotive manufacturer.

turnover and employs 130 staff.

LONSDALE electronics manufacturer Redarc expects to create another 100 jobs before 2020, underpinned by a \$20 million-plus expansion of its facility.

The 2014 Telstra Australian Business of the Year, which makes automotive voltage converters, power supplies, battery chargers, turbo timers, glow plug timers, LED lighting control systems and trailer brakes, has a \$40 million

Managing director Anthony Kittel said the expansion would begin once the purchase of land surrounding the current facility was settled.

"We have grown consistently in the past few years, especially through our caravan and camping equipment sales," he said.

"But there are plans now to diversify into the defence space after we delivered on our first contract with BAE for high-end battery systems for military vehicles this year.

"There is more news to come on the exports front as well, where we are due to sign an agreement on a warehouse in California and a possible contract with an automotive manufacturer in Detroit."

Its expansion is backed by a \$2.5 million grant from the Federal Government's \$90 million Next Generation Manufacturing Investment and Export Growth Investment fund.

The grant will help Redarc buy new testing and validation equipment to help its products comply with international regulations.

Redarc is one of nine SA firms that will receive a total of \$15.4 million in grants over a number of years under the second round of funding announced by Federal Industry Minister Greg Hunt.

The other SA recipients are: Ellex Medical: \$2.5 million for advanced equipment and systems, including relocation from Adelaide to new premises in Salisbury;

Pfitzner Performance Gearbox: \$719,273 for gearbox manufacturing at its facility in Green Fields;

LaserBond: \$1.07 million for a robotic laser additive manufacturing facility for the production of mineral extraction tool system products at Cavan. The Green Dispensary: \$2 million for the custom medicines and pharmaceuticals maker to buy plant and equipment and modify its facilities at Norwood and St Peters.

Precise Plastic Tooling: \$545,000 for new machinery and equipment at Edwardstown to expand services to the medical, electronic, sustainability and advanced manufacturing sectors.

Bickford's Australia: \$2.5 million to establish an Ultra-Clean beverage manufacturing line in Salisbury South.

Scholle IPN: \$1.1 million for advanced manufacturing equipment to provide retail packaging and laminating capability at Edinburgh North. Seeley International: \$2.49 million for advanced manufacturing processes to increase capacity of its production of evaporative coolers and Climate Wizard air conditioners at Lonsdale.