

Machinations in place for engineering export drive

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NEW MARKETS: Kelly Engineering chief executive Calvin Stead and owners Jo and Shane Kelly – the multimillion-dollar regional business employs 52 people.

A SOUTH Australian regional agribusiness that has tasted global success is gearing up for the next phase of growth through a new research and development facility in the Mid North.

Kelly Engineering, based in Booleroo Centre in the southern Flinders Ranges, is investing up to \$1 million in a new R&D centre, which is also supported by state and regional grants and loans.

Chief executive Calvin Stead said the multiple awardwinning business was hoping to have the facility completed in 12 months as it geared up for a bigger export push into Europe and sets up a presence in southern Africa, while also sourcing orders from the corn belt in the US.

“About 70 per cent of our revenues come from exports.

“We have taken on a fresh demand-driven approach to growing and investing heavily in our research and development expertise.

“We have gone from one engineer to seven in the past three years,” Mr Stead said.