

# Mongolia upskilling to be driven by SA leader group

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COLLABORATION: Sage Automation's Andrew Downs and RJE Global director Dean Cook.

THE heads of two Adelaidebased companies will travel together to Mongolia this week to explore training opportunities for local workers.

RJE Global director Dean Cook and Sage Automation managing director Andrew Downs will head to the country's capital Ulaanbaatar, where RJE exports heavy industry construction equipment. Sage's Tonsley-based training arm, Skills Lab, provides automation training services to university students in the Indian cities of Pune and Mumbai, and Mr Downs hopes to extend the services to the Oyu Tolgoi mine site in the southern Gobi desert.

The two local business leaders connected at South Australian

Leaders – a membership organisation that provides professional development, mentoring and networking opportunities.

RJE Global is one of 25 companies that will graduate from the latest round of the South Australian Leaders executive membership series this week, while Mr Downs is a member of the group's advisory board.

Mr Cook said his connection with Mr Downs provided an opportunity for further collaboration between the two companies.

"It was at South Australian Leaders that we discovered how our current business in Mongolia and commitment to upskilling the national Mongolian workforce could open a door to introduce Sage's training arm to the country," he said.

"Our Mongolian partners value our expertise and our ability to bring world-class skills and training to their country.

"Sage can help us educate and better the local employees, which is crucial."

Mr Downs said Mongolia presented a new opportunity for Sage's expanding automation training services.

"We see training as a global business – there is a need everywhere, and it's a need we can deliver on," he said.

"Automation training is generic and can be adapted to suit a range of industries across the world including automotive, manufacturing, mining, transport and water delivery services."

South Australian Leaders director Natasha Malani said her organisation provided opportunities for local companies to reach new domestic and international markets.

"South Australian Leaders has the ability to connect companies and to create growth opportunities, and this is particularly relevant in the manufacturing industry," Ms Malani said.

South Australian Leaders will hold its graduation event at RiAus Science Exchange on Thursday.