

# Adapt, evolve, grow: Business wins boost

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Redarc managing director Anthony Kittel and Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre managing director Dr Jens Goennemann. Picture: Brenton Edwards

A WEEK-LONG series of workshops, seminars and other events will be held next month to help the state's small business owners bounce back and boost their ventures post-COVID-19.

BizWeek, launched by the State Government in partnership with industry groups including Business SA, will offer support in areas including marketing and e-commerce, climate change and resilience planning, cybersecurity, and how to access government assistance.

Events will be held in Adelaide, Kangaroo Island, the Adelaide Hills and Port Pirie and will be livestreamed in a virtual hub, with access available for a period of time after the event.

Skills Minister David Pisoni said the events – to be delivered from April 27-30 – were designed to build capacity, develop skills and support the day-to-day running of small businesses across the state.

“Our focus for this year’s event will be on assisting business to adapt, evolve and grow as we continue the recovery from COVID-19 and, importantly, shining a clear light on the various incentives and support programs that are available,” he said. “We know that business owners want clear, simple and trusted information on what support and services are available from government.”

BizWeek will include a combination of in-person and virtual-streamed speakers and events.

It follows the release of several state and federal government stimulus measures in the wake of COVID-19, including a \$10,000 emergency cash grant, an SME business advisory services program and the development of the SA business information hub and app.

Business SA chief executive Martin Haese said BizWeek was an opportunity for small businesses to engage with government and the business community to ensure they were better equipped to tackle the current challenges.

“It’s been a difficult past 12 months for small and medium businesses, so an event like this is important to receive up-to-date information on our road to recovery,” he said.

“This series of events, seminars and workshops will allow businesses to share ideas, learn from some of the best in their respective fields and collaborate with government to get our economy moving forward.”

Last month, electronic systems manufacturer Redarc unveiled plans to invest \$20m in 12 months in its SA operations, with the support of government incentives and investment.

Redarc managing director Anthony Kittel said the program of BizWeek events would support businesses with their post-COVID recovery plans.

“The programs on offer during BizWeek will enable small business owners to gain vital knowledge in areas that are crucial in their day-to-day operations,” he said.

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