



**Geelong
Manufacturing
Council**

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



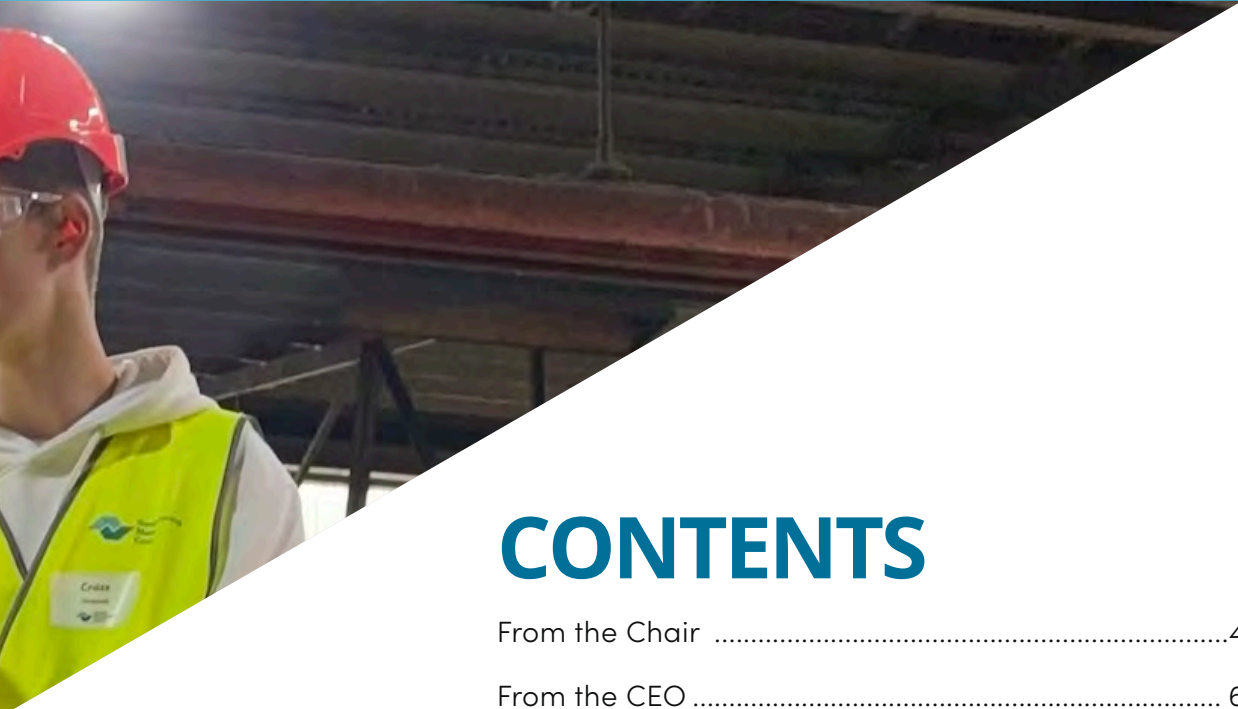


OUR VISION

GMC's vision is a vibrant regional manufacturing sector now and for the future.

Our strategy is guided by three key fundamental pillars:

1. **Knowledge Sharing** – growing skills and capabilities; stimulating innovation; accelerating the transition to advanced manufacturing; enhancing the entrepreneurial ecosystem;
2. **Networking** – facilitating opportunities; supporting the pursuit of excellence across manufacturing; and
3. **Advocacy** – creating a positive environment and attracting talent and investment to the sector.



CONTENTS

From the Chair4

From the CEO 6

Board of Directors 8

Knowledge sharing highlights 11

Networking highlights..... 16

Advocacy highlights 18

Technology and Innovation Summit23

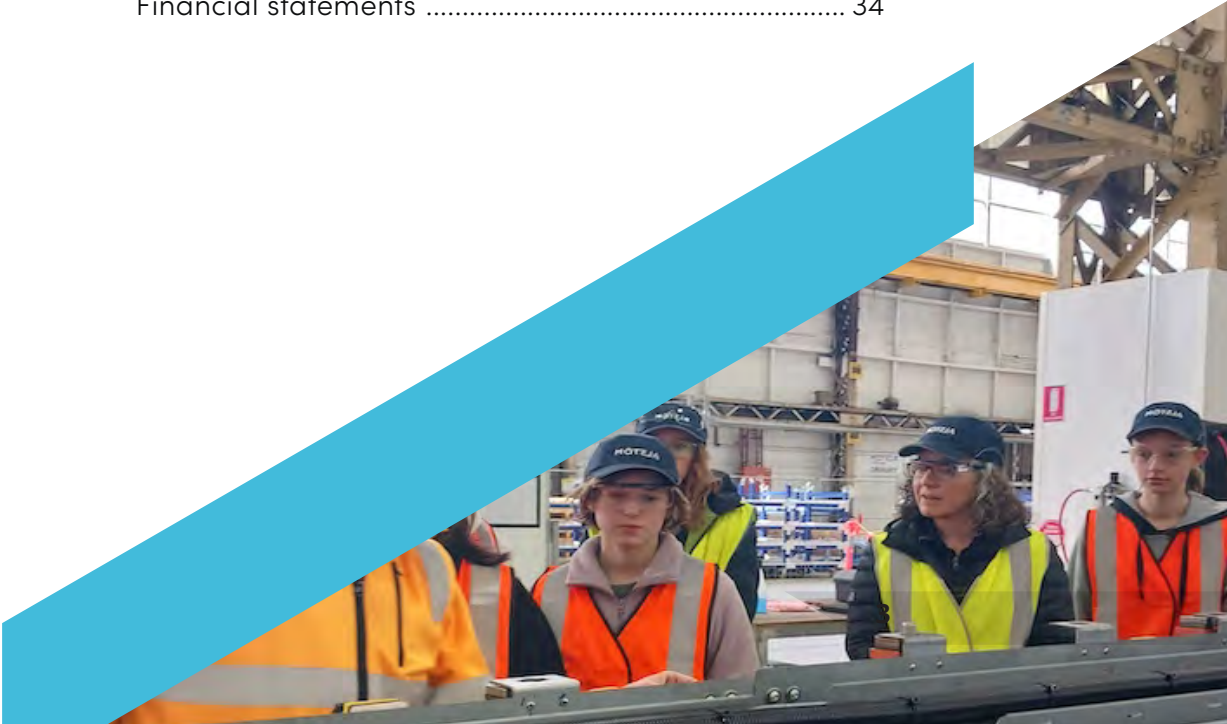
In the media25

Major sponsors27

Industry sponsors..... 28

Members 29

Financial statements 34



FROM THE CHAIR

After taking over as GMC Board Chair in the middle of last year, it has been my honour and privilege to work with fellow directors and GMC staff to continue promoting the Geelong region as a manufacturing hub with an established manufacturing eco-system.

I want to thank our CEO, Jenn Conley, GMC staff and fellow directors for their tireless efforts and passionate commitment to the Geelong manufacturing community. I am proud of the work done by the GMC in support of our region and its manufacturers.

Some noteworthy **highlights** from the past year that I would like to emphasise, include:

Our **inaugural CEO program**, also referenced in the CEO report, was aimed at leaders near or at the top of their organisations. The program recognises that we are never too senior or experienced to benefit from learning and development opportunities.

Delivered in partnership with Melbourne Business School, the program attracted an impressive list of participants and speakers, and I am pleased to say the GMC CEO also participated. According to participants, the program was a resounding success and we are considering the appropriate frequency for future programs.

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting **our members** during the past year. It has been exciting and inspirational to be exposed to their manufacturing operations, hear about their challenges and witness the wealth of capability and the many cases of world-class advanced manufacturing happening in our region. So often manufacturers 'keep their heads down' and just get on with the job. I think this humility comes from an appreciation of what it takes to be a successful manufacturer, but my visits have left me filled with pride and enthusiasm for the future.

We have amazing manufacturing firms in our region, and I thank all the members who have opened their doors to us over the past year to host our programs, our staff, the CEO and Chair of the GMC.

To emphasise the richness of manufacturing in our region, the recent Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame Awards again reflected our **manufacturing pedigree**. It was incredibly inspiring to see all the finalists in an award category come from Geelong, and that we won two categories.



*We must
'mind the gaps'*

Congratulations to Farm Foods Australia on winning Manufacturer of the Year – Regional Business and Hanlon Industries on winning Manufacturer of the Year – Medium Business.

Our **suite of programs** designed to encourage women into manufacturing jobs makes business sense. It helps to alleviate skills shortages, promotes workplace safety, fosters innovation and improves workplace culture.

Our GLAM (Girls Leading Advanced Manufacturing) program seeks to promote manufacturing jobs to girls who are making critical subject decisions at high school.

Our Women in Manufacturing Network (WIMN) seeks to increase participation rates of women across the manufacturing and engineering sectors through mentoring, providing role models, as well as improving skills and capabilities.

The Seed 2 STEM program, funded by the Federal Government, pulls together much of our activity in this space and expands these activities to both the Ballarat and Bendigo regions. Finally, our new BIG IDEAS program, funded by the State Government, seeks to equip decision makers with proven strategies for building diversity in their workplaces. These programs are making a difference and many of our members are reporting considerable progress in an area that is a strategically sound business imperative.

Finally, our biennial **Technology and Innovation Summit** was kicked off by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, the honourable Richard Marles.

As always, Richard spoke passionately about the government's commitment to manufacturing, the importance of improving our standing on Harvard University's economic complexity index and building the necessary sovereign capability.

Without doubt, the current government has made substantial commitments to manufacturing, including the material funding available through the National Reconstruction Fund and the Industry Growth Program. Nevertheless, the Summit also highlighted the large gap that needs to be addressed for Australia to improve our manufacturing base and move the dial on Harvard's complexity index. Speaking to our members, we continue to hear about the reality of their day-to-day challenges and the policy gaps that still need to be addressed.

Manufacturing Policy – “Mind the gap”

For manufacturing firms to survive and thrive in market-based economies, it is generally accepted that they must be competitive. This means government policy needs to be shaped to drive competitive advantage or strategic value.

Government support must ‘pick winners’ or be targeted. Although it can be unpopular, Australia must be crystal clear about where we have advantages and then work to make those sectors and those areas of manufacturing more robust. The importance of integrated and robust supply chains to support manufacturers cannot be overstated.

Manufacturers everywhere depend on reliable and competitively-priced flow of raw materials and services critical to their manufacturing process. Australia once had an energy advantage, this is now mere energy adequacy, and often not even that. High energy costs, high employment and regulatory costs, in a globally competitive environment, cannot merely be glossed over – we must ‘mind the gaps’.

The core functions of the GMC, namely creating connections for our members, building skills and capabilities through knowledge sharing as well as training programs and advocating on behalf of our members, remain unchanged. I look forward to working with you and across all levels of government to continue addressing the gaps that make life hard for manufacturers in Australia.

Thys Heyns
Chair

FROM THE CEO

Why joining is good for everyone

It will not surprise you to learn that GMC warmly encourages new members.

We believe that contributing to a community of like-minded businesses is in the interests of individual organisations, as well as the wider sector.

What you may not know is that joining will also increase your own life expectancy! According to Harvard University social scientist, Robert Putnam, now 83, “your chances of dying over the next year are cut in half by joining one group.”

Growing evidence suggests that “social capital”, such as active membership in organisations, is strongly linked to vastly improved economic, civic and well-being outcomes.

GMC, now in its 27th year, is an association of companies and organisations working together with the shared aim of securing the viability of regional manufacturing.

In 2024, we spoke up for manufacturing on the issues that matter to the sector. This included driving the message to government about skills shortages, the rising cost of energy, the ever-increasing burden of compliance, immigration and workforce challenges, and promoting the value of manufacturing careers to local students, their parents and teachers.

We also brought you together in record numbers this year. In April, we were pleased to present our successful biennial event, the Technology and Innovation Summit, attracting innovation leaders from across Australia to Geelong.

A highlight of the year was kicking off our new CEO Program in May with a weekend retreat at Dunkeld and special guest leader facilitators, Cobram Estate founder, Rob McGavin, and Reserve Bank Australia Board member Professor Ian Harper.

I am pleased to share our financial results for FY 2023-2024 in this Annual Report, noting we recorded a surplus of \$103,401. This was higher than initially budgeted, largely the result of timing of expenses



While getting involved takes time, it can reap huge value

after the financial year end, and considerably more than we are budgeting for the current year. Following a comparatively lean period, I am proud to say GMC now has a strong balance sheet which we will work to maintain in order to continue servicing our members.

We welcomed Director, Thys Heyns, to the role of GMC Chair in July 2023. I am enormously grateful to Thys for his huge contribution to the GMC community this year. He is a valued adviser to myself and the team and I cannot thank him enough for generously sharing his time and expert guidance.

Our organisation has been fortunate to have a strong and effective Board of Directors, and I thank each of them for their commitment to the organisation and the region.

Dynamic programs

One of the challenges for groups often is participation levels. Economists argue that repeated social interaction helps businesses grow, that face to face activities – combined with the expectation of future interaction – are proven to improve trust, make cooperation easier and increase productivity.

Over the next 12 months, we will be focused on expanding value and opportunities for members. Along with our regular programs and events, look out for:

- Our biennial Manufacturing Celebration & Awards Dinner, on the sidelines of the Avalon Air Show.
- Our BIG IDEAS program, with open access resources for tapping into more diverse workforce opportunities.
- A new Knowledge Cluster for Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG) practitioners.

Fortunately for the GMC, our community continues to grow – and this is largely due to repeated interactions among members throughout the year. In 2024, we had more than 1250 attendees at our events and programs, a 25 per cent increase on the previous year. Worth noting also is that participants this year reported a satisfaction level above 98 per cent.

People are busy, I know! And while getting involved takes time, it can reap huge value.

Jennifer Conley
CEO

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



THYS HEYNS
GMC CHAIR, DIRECTOR/CONSULTANT

Thys Heyns has 35 years' experience in the oil and gas industry, most recently retired from Viva Energy as Chief Operating Officer. Prior to joining Viva Energy in February 2015, Thys was with BP for 28 years in an international career across four continents that covered Supply Chain, Oil Trading and Refining.



ROBERT BACKWELL
GMC DEPUTY CHAIR,
DIRECTOR OF THE IXL GROUP
OF COMPANIES

Rob is a director of the IXL Group of companies, including Backwell IXL and IXL Metal Castings. IXL, was established in 1858, today its Geelong manufacturing activity includes domestic appliances, metal stamping and a foundry. The Group's domestic appliance marketing and distribution business, IXL Home, sells IXL, Cannon and iRobot appliances.



JANE FLETCHER
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
GODFREY HIRST

Jane Fletcher has 28 years' experience in carpet manufacturing with Godfrey Hirst Australia. She took on the role as a director and COO in January 2021, having previously been involved in Planning, Operations and Supply Chain Management. Jane has a Bachelor of Commerce from Deakin University and an APICS CPIM.



LYN GEORGE
CORPORATE DIRECTOR
AUSTENG

Lyn is the co-owner and corporate director of Austeng, a boutique engineering business that specialises in the design, engineering and development of customised equipment for industry. Lyn has been instrumental in restructuring and repositioning Austeng's focus from very much reliant on the automotive industry to operating in several new sectors.



GREG HUGHES
CEO FARM FOODS

Greg has successfully managed ASX listed companies, private equity backed organisations as well as family owned enterprises. He has held executive level positions for the last 15 years with major companies including Mars Incorporated, Sakata Rice Snacks, Dymocks group and A2 milk. Greg is currently the CEO of Farm Foods and is a non executive Director of Kikada Lane Dental group, ACMK Investments Pty Ltd and Gateways Support Services.



TUBA KOCATURK
PROFESSOR OF CIRCULAR
DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Tuba Kocaturk is Professor of Circular Cities at Deakin University School of Architecture and Built Environment. Tuba is the founding director of MInD (Mediated Intelligence in Design) Lab; a trans-disciplinary and practice-based research group that operates at the intersection of Built Environment, Information Technology and Design Innovation. The lab collaborates closely with design, construction, health, advanced manufacturing, art & culture, and technology sectors.



GLEN PASQUE
OPERATIONS MANAGER,
VIVA ENERGY GEELONG
REFINERY

Glen has 32 years of manufacturing experience across three different industries, most recently the Oil and Gas Industry with Viva Energy as Operations Manager at the Geelong Refinery. Prior to joining Viva Energy in February 2015, Glen spent 12 years with Alcoa Rolled Products at the Point Henry Aluminium Rolling Plant in Geelong Victoria and 12 years at BHP Steel at the Rolling and Coating Plant in Westernport Victoria.

THANK YOU JAMIE AND LYN



Congratulations to Jamie Baensch for being awarded the Brian Backwell Award for Industry Leadership at our 2023 AGM, in recognition for his outstanding contribution to industry.

Thank you to Lyn George OAM for her outstanding leadership and contribution to the regional industry as GMC Chair in 2018 – 2023.



KNOWLEDGE SHARING HIGHLIGHTS

CEO Program

In 2024, we proudly launched and partnered with the Melbourne Business School to deliver the 2024 CEO Program. The CEO Program covered pressing issues, away from day to day distractions, for our most senior leaders in manufacturing.

As relentless economic turbulence continues to challenge the manufacturing sector, program participants heard from Australian business leaders and educators to help them develop workable strategies.

Professor Ian Harper AO, Reserve Bank of Australia Board member, and Rob McGavin, co-founder and Chair of Cobram Estate Olives, were special guest speakers at the 2024 opening retreat.

Rob McGavin, who with partner Paul Riordan, started in 1998 what is now Australia's largest olive oil producer, facilitated a morning session on building a strong and effective culture within a business.

Professor Harper, who is one of six non-executive members on the RBA and the longest-serving board member, joined a dinner discussion and shared deep insights on the RBA's key role in supporting a stable economy.

Look out for the next GMC CEO program in 2026.



Leadership for Manufacturing Excellence

The Leadership for Manufacturing Excellence Program is a practical professional development program – with eight workshops delivered annually – tailored for emerging leaders and managers. This program helps your best people to succeed in today's manufacturing environment. The hands-on program develops manufacturing expertise and leadership skills, builds capability in communication and collaboration, teaches and expands on participants' understanding of lean principles and supports them in project implementation.

In 2023/24, we graduated 16 emerging leaders from our Leadership for Manufacturing Excellence program and enrolled 18+ valued employees in a new course.



Knowledge Clusters

GMC membership provides connection, knowledge sharing among peers, tailored training and advocacy. As part of this mission, members can participate in specialised networks – or knowledge clusters. These offer communities of practice and allow more targeted discussions for your team members. Check our website geelongmanufacturingcouncil.com.au for more.

Women in Manufacturing Network

The Women in Manufacturing Networking program (WIMN), led by GMC Program Manager, Leanne Nelson, aims to increase participation rates of women across the manufacturing and engineering sector in Geelong by promoting, supporting and encouraging women in the industry, and into the industry. The highly regarded WIMN Mentoring program draws on industry mentors to support and develop women in operational roles in manufacturing and engineering organisations. WIMN also holds a series of professional development events each year to facilitate increasing diversity and inclusion within our sector, putting participating organisations in a position to take advantage of the associated benefits.

We supported 11 women through our Women in Manufacturing Network Mentoring Program in 2023. In 2024, this program moved under the Seed2STEM banner and is working with nine mentees and nine industry leader mentors to help retain and promote women in manufacturing.



OPPORTUNITIES & ENGAGEMENT

EVENTS & MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

- 23 Member Events
- 756 Attendees
- Events include GMC Connect, Knowledge Clusters, Tours, and Special Events

1



2



TRAINING PROGRAMS

- 6 Training Programs
- 18 Events for Training
- 382 Attendees
- Programs include Leadership for Manufacturing Excellence, Schools Tours, WIMN Networking, CEO Program 2024

SCHOOLS & WORKFORCE PROGRAMS

- 2 Schools Programs Launched
- 67 Year 9 & 10 Applicants in Geelong
- Expanded to Ballarat: 19 Students, 6 Business Visits, 8 Women in Mentoring
- Expansion plans for Bendigo

3



4



LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 16 Graduates from Leadership for Manufacturing Excellence
- 18+ Employees in New Course (Enrolled by 20/6)
- 9 Participants in New C-suite/GM Leaders Program

WOMEN IN MANUFACTURING

- Supported 10 Women in 2023
- 20 Women with 20 Mentors for Expanded 2024 Program

5



6



KNOWLEDGE CLUSTERS

- Established 2 Additional Knowledge Clusters
- Total of 3 Knowledge Clusters

TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION SUMMIT

- 9 Sessions
- 32 Speakers
- 156 Guests

7





In 2023/24 we
brought you
together in
record numbers

NETWORKING HIGHLIGHTS

We brought you together in record numbers in 2023/24 with 1250 attendees at our events and programs over the year.

Through curated events GMC Connect offers a platform for industry leaders to exchange insights, drive innovation, and strengthen connections. Our objective is to empower members with the latest industry knowledge, build strategic alliances, and collectively contribute to the growth and success of Geelong's manufacturing sector. By creating opportunities for meaningful engagement, GMC Connect continues to support a thriving and future-ready industry.

Thank you to our speakers throughout the year.

- Swapnil Aglawe, KPMG
- Glynn Atkinson, Deakin University
- Harry Baxter, DMTC
- Prof Nick Birbilis, Deakin University
- Carley Brennan, The Gordon TAFE
- David Buchanan, Advanced Fibre Cluster Geelong
- Gerard Buckle, Carbon Revolution
- David Chuter, DISR
- Matthew Constable, Deakin University
- Jason Coonan, Breakthrough Victoria
- Prof Doug Creighton, Institute of Intelligent Systems Research & Innovation
- Matt Dingle, FormFlow
- Karen Durand, Incitec Pivot
- Troy Edwards, City of Greater Geelong
- Charlotte Finn, KPMG
- Jack Fitzgerald, Think Fencing
- Matt Fletcher, KPMG
- Prof Maria Forsyth, Deakin University
- Prof Bronwyn Fox, CSIRO
- Daniel Frantz, Hanwha Defence Australia
- Lyn George, Austeng
- Prof Roy Green, University of Technology Sydney
- Tim Haden, Australian Business Growth Fund
- Prof Ian Harper, Reserve Bank of Australia
- Luke Heine, KPMG
- Robert Hill, Viva Energy
- Leigh Holmes, Symal Group
- Prof Tuba Kocaturk, Deakin University
- Rob Mackie, Viva Energy
- Hon Richard Marles MP, Australian Government
- Geoff Martin, MBS
- Andrew McFarlane, Barwon Health
- Rob McGavin, Cobram Estate
- Cameron McKenzie, ASPIRE
- Sam McNaughton, DI Advisory Services
- Peter Meikle, Universal Motion Simulation
- Lee Miezis, EPA Victoria
- Sean O'Reilly, Incitec Pivot
- Lachlan Pfeiffer, Viva Energy
- Brian Pinkman, Symal Group
- Ivan Power, National Reconstruction Fund Corporation
- Luke Preston, Quickstep
- Emily Rahles-Rahbula, Barwon Water
- Todd Shilton, Deakin University
- Nicole Sinclair, Parish Engineering Co.
- Peter Smith, Boomaroo Nurseries
- Mayor Trent Sullivan, City of Greater Geelong
- Shane Williams, Manufacturing Tech Australia
- Andrew Younger, WatchGuard Technologies



ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS

We spoke up for manufacturing on the issues that matter to you

We met with Ministers and MPs throughout the year in Canberra and Geelong to address issues regarding trade support, immigration, industry policy, anti-dumping and competition issues and supplier challenges.

We campaigned on member concerns regarding the cost of red tape, the difficulty of attracting a skilled workforce, concerns about industrial relations reforms and raised the profile of Geelong manufacturers among policymakers and influencers, including elected officials and relevant government authorities. Locally, we continued to drive advocacy in schools and among parents and teachers for developing our future manufacturing workforce.



ADVOCACY FOR GEELONG REGION MANUFACTURERS

MANUFACTURING POLICY

1



- **Policy Advocacy:** Engagement with state and federal governments on manufacturing policy and industry challenges.
- **Government Consultations:** Active participation in consultations with government departments.
- **Industry Programs:** Involvement in initiatives such as the Industry Growth Program.

2



TRAINING, SKILLS & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

- **Advisory Involvement:** Participation in advisory boards focused on skill development and workforce readiness.
- **Educational Collaboration:** Partnerships with institutions like Deakin University and The Gordon for workforce training initiatives.
- **Industry-Specific Training:** Engagement in training and education events tailored to industry needs.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

3



- **Local Partnerships:** Regular engagement with local government, educational institutions, and industry groups.
- **Facilitation of Opportunities:** Creating business opportunities and collaborations.

4



DEFENCE INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

- **Sector Collaboration:** Working through alliances and programs to enhance regional participation in the defence sector.
- **Defence Initiatives:** Participation in specific programs like the Smart Enough Factory Program aimed at defence-related manufacturing.

ADVOCACY VISITS & GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

5



- **Government Engagement:** Conducting advocacy visits to Canberra, meeting with federal ministers and advisors on relevant issues.
- **Policy Discussions:** Engaging with government departments on manufacturing, skills, and trade.

6



SUSTAINABILITY & INNOVATION

- **Sustainability Advocacy:** Promotion of sustainability initiatives and participation in innovation forums.
- **Clean Economy Projects:** Engagement in projects that support a circular economy and sustainable practices.

COMMUNITY & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

7



- **Regional Planning:** Involvement in regional development strategies such as the G21 Region Plan.
- **Community Projects:** Collaboration on local community and infrastructure development projects.

8



INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS & TRADE

- **Business Missions:** Facilitation of business delegations, relationship-building activities, and agreements with entities like Changwon University and Hanwha.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Leveraging international partnerships.
- **Consular Engagement:** Advocacy visits and interactions with Korean, Vietnamese & Japanese diplomatic representatives.



Seed2STEM

With support from the Australian Government, we successfully expanded our schools program and women in manufacturing network to Ballarat, enrolling 19 students, visiting six manufacturing businesses and supporting eight women in the mentoring program.

Our Seed2STEM initiative combines two Geelong Manufacturing Council-led key programs: Girls Leading Advanced Manufacturing (GLAM) and the Women in Manufacturing Network (WIMN), with a focus on regional Victoria.



Geelong Future Leaders of Industry and Girls Leading Advanced Manufacturing

Geelong Future Leaders of Industry (GFLOI) and Girls Leading Advanced Manufacturing (GLAM) are immersion programs introducing Years 9 and 10 students to the exciting world of advanced manufacturing. They are designed to encourage students to consider a profession or trade pathway with a focus on technology, design, engineering or advanced manufacturing, simultaneously raising the profile of manufacturing as an important career pathway in the Geelong region.

GLAM and GFLOI had amazing responses in 2024 with 39 students participating. These numbers will be augmented by the addition of the Clean Economy World of Work program in August 2024, with a further eight students participating. Such a positive response to these programs is a step in the right direction for the future of manufacturing, thanks to the efforts of Program Officer Nicole Rosbergen, GMC members and funding support from Skilling the Bay.



2024 overview – record number of graduates

- 39 students in Years 9-11
- 12 participating schools from Geelong & region
- 22 businesses
- 13 tours over the two groups
- Average rating of 4.4/5 for tour satisfaction

TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION SUMMIT

Australia's leading thinkers on the challenges and opportunities for manufacturing shared their inspirational insights at our biennial GMC Technology and Innovation Summit in April.

The 160-strong audience heard from more than 30 speakers, including a majority of manufacturers and former manufacturers with decades of experience in the sector. GMC was pleased to also host the new CEO of the Federal Government's "sovereign investor in industrial capability", the National Reconstruction Fund, Ivan Power, in his very first visit to Geelong in the new role.

Geelong was in the spotlight from the kick-off, with a conversation about the impact of Government policies on the Australian economy, featuring Deputy Prime Minister, Defence Minister and Member for Corio, the Hon. Richard Marles MP, moderated by GMC CEO, Jenn Conley. DPM Marles reflected on the importance of manufacturing to Geelong, and his hopes for Australia: "Our challenge as a nation – and I feel like Geelong is very much at the centre of this – is to climb the ladder of technology, to increase complexity within our economy," he said. The remarkable success of our primary commodity exports continues to hollow out value-adding manufacturing.

This was followed by a series of discussions, rich with key learnings from manufacturers facing an ever-more challenging environment and from companies commercialising new and disruptive technologies.



9 sessions

32 speakers

156 guests



IN THE MEDIA

Monday February 19, 2024 | Geelong Advertiser

NEWS 07

FUTURE
GEELONGFuture Geelong transcends mere celebration: it's an opportunity to
redefine who we are as a region and what we can offer the world.

Friday, March 1, 2024

BOOK NOW



Innovators impress top brass

Mike Griffiths

While Korean defence giant Hanwha may get most of the headlines, there are a growing number of hi-tech Geelong innovators quietly making waves in the industry.

At the International Armoured Vehicles Conference in London last month, Peter McKie, chief executive of Universal Motion Simulation (UMS), presented to an audience that included the top brass of many of the world's leading militaries.

Dr McKie highlighted the role UMS's technology is playing in the training of soldiers tasked with manning armoured vehicles.

"You can teach the driver's perspective in operating the vehicle in all sorts of difficult driving scenarios that you just don't risk in the actual vehicle," he said.

The high-level crowd also included Major General Simon Blair, who oversees armoured vehicles in the Australian Defence Force.

"He described our solution as a 'game changer'," Dr McKie said.

"Representatives of many of the world's leading militaries were present and the

feedback was extremely positive."

At its core, UMS combines cutting-edge software and robotics to develop easily interchangeable cabins that replicate a range of armoured vehicles.

Army personnel are trained on how best to handle a range of situations that would be too dangerous to attempt in real life.

The technology was developed at Deakin University's Institute for Intelligent Systems and was spun into UMS in 2017 as a private company with 30 employees that remains based at Deakin.

UMS recently installed six of its simulators at the Australian Army's Puckapunyal training base as part of a \$32m federal government contract, which comes on top of a \$21m contract to supply simulators for Rheinmetall's Boxer combat reconnaissance vehicles. It is also developing cabins for the M113 Armoured Vehicle and associated engineering vehicles.

"By the end of the year, we'll be under contract to provide the cabins for the Hanwha Redback," Dr McKie said.

"We're [also] pursuing opportunities in Scandinavia, Poland, the UK, the US,"



Industry Minister Ed Husic tries out one of Universal Motion Simulation's cabins at Deakin University.

Hanwha, which is putting the finishing touches on its \$170m Armoured Vehicle Centre of Excellence at Avalon, was awarded the \$3m contract to manufacture 120 of its Redback vehicles for the Australian Army in July.

Hanwha's Australian boss Richard Cho has made clear his intent to partner with ad-

vanced manufacturing research Geelong researchers.

Geelong Manufacturing Council chief executive Jennifer Conley said UMS was one of several local companies with defence industry capability.

Ms Conley said Quickstep was also doing impressive things in the defence space.

Ms Conley said Quickstep was also doing impressive things in the defence space.

searchers and manufacturers to accelerate the development and commercialisation of 60-based products and processes.

The AFC and RAE are jointly hosting an event on March 26 at Geelong council's office to help local small and medium businesses navigate the complex aspects of becoming a defence industry supplier.

TAKE
THE
SURVEYSCAN THE CODE
TO HAVE YOUR
SAY IN THE ADDY'S
FUTURE GEELONG
SURVEYLuke Griffiths and
Michaela Meade

Korean defence giant Hanwha is having a pact on manufacturing national sectors produced one from its soon to be a facility.

Having secured more than \$50m next generation vehicles, the central boss Richard Hanwha had to work developing network.

Agreements University and have been entered as a high-level with the Geelong Manufacturing Council.

"These agreements are important to us. It's about long-term supply sources — key to building a range within Australia that can provide that assistance and support to our global approach."

Mr Cho said choosing Avalon for its Australian base made sense on many fronts.

"The region has a strong history of vehicle manufacturing, with both Deakin and Gordon well placed to provide the next generation

of workers," he said. "We wanted to make the most of Geelong's advantages to help grow the region."

GMC chief executive Jennifer Conley said Hanwha would provide important international exposure to local manufacturers.

"So many of our small and medium sized enterprises are world class but they don't necessarily have the reputation needed to penetrate international markets — working alongside Hanwha will give many of them that leg up," she said.

eight of the GMHBA building in August and will use it as a base for a push into regional Victoria.

KPMG partner and Geelong boss Paul Robson said the company's enterprise division looked at where business was growing and identified Geelong as a clear standout.

Mr Robson said the com-

pany wanted to leverage Geelong's advantages to help grow the region.

At the start, you've got that employment people want number," he said.

He actively in-Geelong business, and we're support growth in knowledge, science to the lifestyle was d for workers to the region, and way of life provide capital side of our said.

tastic natural d a really di-

for Geelong Michael John attraction for and investors to attract tal-

ling, particu-

larly some of the larger businesses that have arrived more recently, they're drawing on employees that are either living down here, or are working at what is effectively a satellite office, or others that are going to be coming in, and maybe are being drawn in from the western suburbs of Melbourne," he said.

MPK
KINETIC

HOME WHO WE ARE WHAT WE DO HOW WE WORK CAREERS CONTACT US

MEDIA

INGENUITY // OPPORTUNITY

We're proud of our achievements. Keep up to date on how MPK is delivering success for its clients and also advancing the industry and our energy sectors.

The site tour was arranged by the Geelong Manufacturing Council as part of their 9-month Seed2STEM program which aims to provide female students with immersive industry experiences to encourage them to consider a STEM-based career path.

Wind farm tour encourages female students to consider STEM-based careers

20 March 2024



A cohort of 20 female students drawn from schools across regional Victoria gained an insight into the State's renewable energy future, thanks to a site tour of the Golden Plains Wind Farm Project.

The site tour was arranged by the Geelong Manufacturing Council as part of their 9-month Seed2STEM program which aims to provide female students with immersive industry experiences to encourage them to consider a STEM-based career path.

MPK and Vestas were hosts of the wind farm site tour and one of 16 Victorian projects to be visited by the students as part of their Seed2STEM journey.

With the project's civil construction on a rostered day off, MPK and Vestas were able to provide students with a much closer insight into every element of the development of the southern hemisphere's largest ever wind farm project.

From constructing 100+ kms of access roads and concrete batching plants and protecting our cultural heritage and environment, right through to showcasing the sheer size of the concrete foundations required to house the 230m high wind turbine generators.

MPK Project Director Con Anagnos said it was a pleasure hosting the cohort and demonstrating not just the immense size of the Golden Plains Wind Farm Project and the level of planning, design and construction that goes into it, but also conveying how STEM-based learning can lead to careers in projects just like it.

"MPK is a big supporter of encouraging females to join MPK and also the nation's energy sector to forge out industry careers, but a big part of the success of this aim is getting in early and focusing on young female students currently contemplating their education pathway during high school," Con said.

"Providing opportunities for these students to get a close insight into how the renewable energy sector works, showing them first-hand what we do in the field and encouraging them to ask questions about what a career in our industry looks like is really valuable and enables them to make more informed decisions about their future career ambitions."

GEELONG TRADES AND SKILLS ROUNDTABLE

Hosted by the Geelong Manufacturing Council and The Gordon Institute, Weld Australia recently had the opportunity to attend the Trades and Skills Roundtable.

The discussion centred on meeting the growing demand for trades in Australia's transition to renewables, with a focus today on wind energy and the need for welders.

Just some of the other organisations represented at the Roundtable included Geelong Galvanizing, Hanton Industries, Keppel Prince, Brockman Engineering, Worley, the Victorian Government's Department of Education and Training, and the Victorian Skills Authority.



MAJOR SPONSORS



Deakin University | deakin.edu.au

Achieve your business goals with a Deakin partnership. Whatever the size of your organisation, Deakin can help you grow your ideas from concept to reality. Tap into the best and brightest minds from their faculties, institutes and research centres. Access industrial scale facilities and co-location opportunities, as well as their world-class, impact-driven research. In partnering with Deakin, you'll gain a collaborator who is open and flexible to your needs, understands your goals, and shares your ambition. With proven success in tailoring practical interventions and launching scalable commercial applications, they're consistently delivering transformational solutions to local global challenges.



The Gordon | thegordon.edu.au

The Gordon offers 350+ courses across multiple campuses, delivering an extensive range of study options, with qualification levels ranging from Certificate I to the Advanced Diploma level. In delivering an education and skills mix that moves with the changing face of the economic and social landscape, The Gordon partners with industry, secondary schools, universities, employers and community groups, consulting extensively to ensure agility in its continued development and delivery of quality education and training. This enables current and future workforce needs to be met whilst providing students with clear pathways to further study and a career.



Hanwha Defence Australia | hanwha-defence.com.au

Hanwha Defence Australia is a subsidiary of Hanwha Aerospace, a division of the vast Republic of Korea Fortune 500 conglomerate Hanwha Corporation. Hanwha Corporation has been operating in Australia since 2005 in areas including mining equipment, logistics and sustainable energy.

Headquartered in Melbourne, Hanwha Defence Australia was established in 2019 with an initial focus on Land Systems. The company signed a contract with the Commonwealth of Australia to supply self-propelled artillery systems under LAND 8116, a \$0.9 billion to \$1.3 billion project.



Viva Energy Australia | vivaenergy.com.au

Viva Energy is proud to supply about a quarter of the fuel Australians need to reach their destination.

We help Australians reach their destination by refining, importing, and delivering the energy that they need to get there. We're with workers on their daily commute, families on their school run and travellers flying to places far away. We're with industry too, helping to move freight across the country, and keeping the machinery and equipment that drives our economy moving. We've been doing this for 120 years and are excited about building a safe and reliable energy future for all Australians.

INDUSTRY SPONSORS



AKD Softwoods
akd.com.au



City of Greater Geelong
geelongaustralia.com.au



Godfrey Hirst
godfreyhirst.com.au



Incitec Pivot
incitecpivot.com.au



IXL
ixl.com.au



MAB
mab.com.au



Marand Engineering
marand.com.au

TECHNOLOGY PARTNER



Xtreme Technology
xtremetechnology.com.au

MEMBERS

Acacia Consulting Services **acaciacs.com.au**

Acacia Consulting Services has been established for over 30 years, and is today made up of a team of talented staff from around the world, all converging around the idea of delivering exceptional value to clients.

AKD Softwoods | akd.com.au

AKD is Australia's largest softwood sawmilling business with plantations and more than a thousand employees in locations across regional East Coast Australia.

Air Radiators | airradiators.com

A world-class business committed to the design and manufacture of innovative heat transfer and air movement solutions in partnership with their customers.

Austeng | austeng.net.au

A boutique engineering firm that specialises in the design, engineering, development and building of customised electromechanical machinery and systems.

Avalon Airport **avalonairport.com.au**

Avalon Airport makes flying easy from the moment you arrive, with low cost flights, hassle-free parking, streamlined boarding, and great facilities.

Barrett Burston **bbmalt.com.au**

Servicing the Australian malting industry since 1860, Barrett Burston Malting's passion for producing high-quality malt is rooted in tradition, dedication and innovation.

Barwon Asset Solutions **barwonassetsolutions.com.au**

Barwon Asset Solutions are a proudly owned and trusted subsidiary of Barwon Water, delivering quality asset maintenance, land management and project services across a variety of industry sectors.

Barwon Water **barwonwater.vic.gov.au**

Supports regional prosperity by providing excellence in water, sewerage and recycled water services to their customers and the community.

Bates Pipes and Products **batespipes.com.au**

Bates Pipes and Products are a leading manufacturer of reinforced concrete pipes and associated concrete products. A family-owned business which strives to be a leading manufacturer in the civil infrastructure market.

Bob White Electrix | bwe.com.au

Bob White Electrix is one of Australia's leading motor and generator servicing businesses. It provides critical repair and maintenance services to essential service businesses across the country.

Boomaroo Nurseries **boomaroo.com**

One of Australia's largest vegetable seedling and greenlife suppliers, with quality, value and the interests of their customers at the heart of their business.

Breakwater Metaland **breakwatermetaland.com.au**

Breakwater Metaland is the only steel supplier on the south side of Geelong. Servicing everywhere from Lara to the Surfcoast & beyond, including the whole of the Bellarine Peninsula.

Brockman Engineering **brockmaneng.com.au**

A leading Australian supplier of bulk liquid storage and transfer facilities to the petrochemical, defence, and infrastructure sectors.

Carbon Revolution **carbonrev.com**

A global technology company and tier one OEM supplier, which has successfully innovated, commercialised and industrialised the supply of lightweight carbon fibre wheels to the global automotive industry.

City of Greater Geelong **geelongaustralia.com.au**

City of Greater Geelong support local business and promote investment opportunities to drive economic growth in Greater Geelong.

MEMBERS

CMTP | cmtp.com.au

Makes Australia's most trusted custom pallets, cases and crates. At CMTP, no job is too big. Their custom-made solutions offer reliability and durability for any packaging situation.

Cobram Estate Olives cobramestateolives.com.au

The market leader in the Australian olive industry and a global leader in sustainable olive farming with operations in Australia and the USA and a portfolio of premium brands.

Committee for Geelong committeeforgeelong.com.au

Works collaboratively with an authoritative group of stakeholders and influencers to design Geelong's best future.

Coulter Legal coulterlegal.com.au

Control today. Create tomorrow. Coulter Legal builds insightful legal partnerships to help you meet the challenges of today while planning for tomorrow.

CSIRO | csiro.au

For over nearly a century, CSIRO have been improving the lives of people everywhere with their science. CSIRO solves the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology.

Deakin University deakin.edu.au

Achieve your business goals with a Deakin partnership. Whatever the size of your organisation, Deakin can help you grow your ideas from concept to reality. Tap into the best and brightest minds from their faculties, institutes and research centres.

Dow Chemical | dow.com/en-us

A materials science leader committed to delivering innovative and sustainable solutions for customers in packaging, infrastructure and consumer care.

Farm Foods | farmfoods.com.au

Farm Foods Australia is a Geelong based, 100% Australian family-owned food manufacturer. It has grown to become one of Australia's leading meat and plant-based manufacturers and co-packers.

Findex index.com.au/office/geelong

Through startup, expansion and continued growth, Findex supports small and medium enterprises of all shapes throughout Australia.

FLAIM Systems flaimsystems.com

Intersecting technology and science to safely and cost-effectively replicate the stress and uncertainty of real-world emergency situations, Flaim Systems delivers better training with less effort, disruption and cost with improved effectiveness.

FormFlow | formflow.net.au

FormFlow brings great ideas to life. They provide affordable, high quality housing solutions, building products and more.

Geelong Galvanizing geelonggal.com.au

For over 30 years Geelong Galvanizing has specialised in delivering high quality surface finishes for steel installations and products in the construction, landscaping and engineering industries.

GeelongPort geelongport.com.au

GeelongPort, Victoria's second largest port, manages 12 million tonnes of cargo and 600 vessel visits per year. GeelongPort supports the agriculture, construction, energy and tourism sectors.

genU | genu.org.au

genU offers practical, high-quality business services for a wide range of organisations. Plus, you'll be doing a world of good by helping kick-start the careers of people living with a disability.

gforce employment + recruitment | gforce.org.au

gforce is a for-purpose community organisation that makes a difference in the lives of people and communities. They are a full-service employment and recruitment organisation that seeks to assist all jobseekers, participants and employers.

MEMBERS

GHD | ghd.com/en-au

GHD is a global network of multi-disciplinary professionals providing clients with integrated solutions through engineering, environmental, design and construction expertise.

Godfrey Hirst | godfreyhirst.com

Godfrey Hirst is committed to designing, manufacturing and supplying high quality floor coverings that contribute to a more beautiful, comfortable and sustainable world.

GT Recycling gtrecycling.com.au

GT Recycling is a provider of environmentally sustainable recycling solutions for both small and large businesses, councils and government departments.

Hanlon Industries hanlonindustries.com.au

Specialises in steel fabrication, maintenance, labour hire, commercial building and everything construction in many industries across Australia.

Hanwha Defence Australia hanwha-defence.com.au

Hanwha Defence Australia's comprehensive portfolio of capabilities and reach-back into the larger Hanwha group allows them to seek opportunities in a suite of military domains.

Harvest Talent Recruitment harvesthr.com.au

Harvest is an executive search, specialist talent recruitment and human resources firm, proudly based in Geelong.

They are Victoria's regional experts in providing bespoke talent solutions.

Hays Geelong | hays.com.au

At Hays, we invest in lifelong partnerships that empower people and businesses to succeed. Operating in both temporary and permanent recruitment, Hays provides expertise in sectors such as IT, finance, engineering, construction, healthcare & more.

Head Start Barwon education.vic.gov.au

Head Start is the school-based apprenticeships and traineeships program that supports secondary school students to succeed while they study and work towards a career.

HR4Business hr4business.com.au

HR4Business is a HR consultancy providing quality outsourced HR services for small to medium businesses.

ICN | icn.org.au

ICN is a network of experienced industry procurement and supply chain specialists who introduce businesses large and small to projects large and small across Australia and New Zealand.

Incitec Pivot incitecpivot.com.au

Incitec Pivot Limited is a leading technology supplier to the resources and agricultural sectors committed to helping create a sustainable and decarbonised world.

InfraBuild infrabuild.com

InfraBuild recycle, manufacture and distribute steel long products. We are Australia's only fully vertically-integrated steel manufacturer spanning scrap metal recycling, steel manufacturing and downstream distribution.

Innovative Window Solutions innovativewindowsolutions.com.au

Innovative Window Solutions is a premium manufacturer of aluminium doors and windows in Geelong, using only Australian-sourced materials, well-known for quality workmanship and attention to detail.

Integra Systems integrasystems.com.au

We make your vision real through award-winning breakthrough product development, precision sheet metal manufacturing and integrated product solutions. Proudly Australian made and owned.

MEMBERS

IXL | ixl.com.au

IXL Group is a proudly Australian family owned business, established in Geelong over 160 years ago. Today, IXL's operations include IXL Home, Backwell IXL and IXL Metal Castings.

KPMG | kpmg.com/au/en/home

KPMG are a global network of professional firms providing a full range of services to organisations across a wide range of industries, government, and not-for-profit sectors.

LoomTex | loomtex.com.au

LoomTex weaving mill and dyehouse is situated in the heart of one of Australia's historic wool and textile regions, Geelong.

LoomTex has a rich heritage in weaving and dyeing with over a century of textile expertise.

MAB | mab.com.au

Established in 1995, MAB has delivered exceptional developments from grass roots communities, inspired city skylines to thriving commercial and industrial projects.

Malteurop | malteurop.com/en

Malteurop is one of the world's leading producers of malt, a natural, grain-based ingredient. We belong to 10,500 farmers: we exist because they exist. CSR is an integral part of our strategy because it must be part of everything we do.

Marand | marand.com.au

Marand supply precision engineered solutions to a range of industries including aerospace, defence, rail, mining and energy.

McHugh and Eastwood mcheast.com.au

McHugh and Eastwood are a 100% Australian owned logistics and freight company that has grown extensively through providing their customers with professional, efficient and value for money services that are customised to match their needs and priorities.

Programmed programmed.com.au

Programmed is a leading provider of staffing, facility management, maintenance and care services. They employ over 30,000 people every year across a broad range of industries and partner with more than 10,000 customers, small and large.

QA Electrical qaelectrical.com.au

QA Electrical deliver expertise in commercial and industrial electrical, data cabling networks, and renewable power infrastructure and solutions.

Quantem | quantem.com.au

Quantem is the leading independent provider of bulk liquid storage terminals across Australia & New Zealand.

Rendine Constructions rendine.com.au

Rendine has built an enviable reputation as a progressive, leading edge construction company with unparalleled vision.

RPC Technologies rpctechnologies.com

RPC is a global leader in the design, engineering and manufacturing of glass reinforced composite (GRP) solutions, and special fabrications.

Scaada Group | scaada.com.au

SCAADA Group offers an extensive range of occupational hygiene, environmental, project management and sustainable business solutions SCAADA is built around tailored services designed by us for you.

SNF Australia | snf.com.au

A specialist in water chemistry, SNF is the world's leading manufacturer of water-soluble polymers for treating and recycling water and wastewater.

STEEL360 | steel360.com.au

STEEL360 is the destination for all your steel fabrication needs.

Led by Chris McGuane, their down to earth team can assist you with everything from structural steel to detailed metalwork. Check in with them for fabrication of steel, aluminium, copper, brass and more for your project.

MEMBERS

Sykes Racing | sykes.com.au

Sykes has been producing world class shells for over 50 years. It was in 1966 when Jeff Sykes founded our company and we are now one of the very few boat manufacturers around the world who successfully transitioned from making timber shells to composite shells.

Symal Group | symal.com.au

Symal Group offers plant hire, logistics and contracting, Symal supports constructions projects across north and eastern Australia.

Tacit Genie Consulting

Tacit Genie believe that people and organisations possess the tacit knowledge needed to "Unlock your best self"

The Gordon thegordon.edu.au

The Gordon, are all about hands-on learning that will give you the experience and job ready skills you need for your future career.

Think Fencing thinkfencing.com.au

Think Fencing are a professional, friendly team of engineers, fencing designers and horse lovers dedicated to designing and creating the best rural and residential fencing systems on earth.

Thornton Engineering thorntoneng.com.au

Thornton Engineering provides design and fabrication of structural steel, pressure vessels, heat exchangers, plate and piling steel products for major projects Australia wide.

Tresidder Insurance tresidders.com.au

Tresidder Insurance Brokers, are a fundamentally different, customer focused business insurance broker. Their team is armed with a combination of technical expertise and a great understanding of their clients, their business, and their unique risks.

UMS | umimotionsim.com

UMS is focused on the design and manufacture of reconfigurable, high-fidelity motion simulators for driver, pilot and sailor training.

Viva Energy Australia vivaenergy.com.au

Viva Energy is a leading energy company that supplies about a quarter of Australia's fuel requirements. They make, import, blend and deliver fuels, lubricants, solvents and bitumen through our extensive national and international supply chains.

Webster Water Solutions websterwatersolutions.com.au

Webster Water Solutions are committed to offering reliable, high quality services to meet the needs of their residential and commercial customers.

Wisewould Mahony wisewouldmahony.com.au

We've provided legal services to regional Victoria for over 160 years. Our Geelong office is staffed by locals who live and work in the Geelong and Bellarine region, and they are supported by all the resources of a mid-size law firm in Collins St.

Workforce Extensions workext.com.au

Workforce Extensions are Australia's leading owner-operated labour hire and recruitment business network.

Worley | worley.com

Worley deliver projects and provide engineering, procurement and construction expertise to the upstream, midstream, chemicals, power, and mining and minerals sectors.

Xtreme Technology Xtremetechnology.com.au

Xtreme Technology is Western Victoria's most trusted supplier of copiers, computers and connectivity.

GMIC Limited

ABN: 16 089 510 529

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

GMIC LIMITED
ABN: 16 089 510 529
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Corporate membership & sponsorship	429,073	421,309
Project sponsorship & grants	428,042	307,736
Other income	123,819	219,445
Interest received	8,674	-
TOTAL INCOME	989,608	948,490
EXPENDITURE		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(529)	(707)
Administrative expenses	(437,106)	(321,055)
Marketing expenses	(78,924)	(67,688)
Office, IT and other expenses	(32,563)	(234,031)
Project expenses	(337,084)	(294,377)
TOTAL EXPENSES	(886,207)	(917,858)
Surplus for the year	103,401	30,632

GMIC LIMITED
ABN: 16 089 510 529
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	894,703	697,328
Other Assets	119,363	43,228
Prepaid Expenses	53,036	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,067,102	740,556
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, Plant and Equipment	997	333
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	997	333
TOTAL ASSETS	1,068,099	740,889
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	59,837	41,022
Provisions	20,998	48,295
Income in advance	630,199	455,286
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	711,034	544,603
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Income in advance	102,375	45,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	102,375	45,000
TOTAL LIABILITIES	813,410	589,603
NET ASSETS	254,689	151,286
EQUITY		
Retained Earnings	254,689	151,286
TOTAL EQUITY	254,689	151,286



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE DIRECTORS OF GMIC LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of GMIC Limited (the Company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the director's declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of GMIC Limited is in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards as referred to in Note 1 and 2 to the financial statements and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purposes of fulfilling the Company's financial reporting responsibilities under the Corporations Act 2001. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is not modified in respect of this matter.



Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: <http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stephen Kirtley
Director

Dated this 15th day of November, 2024

Davidsons Assurance Services Pty Ltd
101 West Fyans Street
Geelong, Victoria 3220





ABN 16 089 510 529

Address

ib3.102, 75 Pigdons Road
Waurin Ponds VIC 3216

PO Box 3089

Grovedale VIC 3216

Email

admin@geelongmanufacturingcouncil.com.au