



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR THE HON NICK SHERRY

Minister for Small Business
Minister Assisting on Deregulation
Minister Assisting on Tourism

SMALL BUSINESSES HIGHLIGHT BENEFITS OF BEING WEB SAVVY

Four small businesses have shown how embracing e-commerce has brought immense benefits for their operations.

All four small businesses participated in activities run by service providers funded by the Australian Government's Small Business Online program.

They documented their experiences in vodcasts that have been loaded on to the AusIndustry website so that other small businesses can see the benefits of participating in the program.

Small Business Minister, Senator Nick Sherry, said the \$14 million Small Business Online program was designed to assist around 50,000 small businesses, including those in regional areas, gain the right skills to do better on the web.

"The Government has provided funding to 47 service providers Australia-wide to give free or low-cost IT skills development, training and mentoring services to small business owners and managers," Senator Sherry said.

"It is great these small businesses, three of which are located in regional areas, have benefited from participating in the program and can use the skills and knowledge they have gained to enhance their businesses."

"All small businesses should equip themselves with strong IT skills to take advantage of the immense opportunities that will come with the National Broadband Network."

The vodcasts and information on the Small Business Online program and other Australian Government small business assistance measures are available at www.ausindustry.gov.au

CANBERRA

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