



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR THE HON NICK SHERRY

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

AWARDS FOR NORTHERN TASMANIAN SMALL BUSINESSES

A smart approach to running their business has earned two Northern Tasmanian companies nationwide awards, which have been recognised at a function in Launceston today.

Small Business Minister and Labor Senator for Tasmania, Nick Sherry, presented certificates of recognition to Avidity Training and Development, of Waverley, and Tassienet, of Riverside.

Avidity Training and Development specialises in face-to-face classroom-based training opportunities for job seekers in remote areas and is the winner of the BEC Australia Best Micro Business award.

High-speed broadband internet service provider Tassienet has been operating for under a year and was a finalist in the BEC Australia Best New Business award.

“These are significant achievements by two small businesses in Northern Tasmania up against the best across the country,” Senator Sherry said.

“Both small businesses used the free advisory services of Business & Employment, the local Business Enterprise Centre.

“It shows the benefits for small business people of talking face-to-face with advisors at these centres set up to help them improve their operations.

“The \$42 million Business Enterprise Centres program is one of many initiatives the Gillard Labor Government has in place to help small businesses improve their business acumen.”

Business & Employment is one of 36 Business Enterprise Centres around the country funded by the Gillard Government.

“We recognise the importance of small businesses in the national economy and we’re assisting their growth through the BECs and other initiatives, such as the Small Business Online Program and highly successful Small Business Support Line,” Senator Sherry said.

“All these initiatives improve current operations and prepare small businesses for opportunities that will flow when the Australian Government’s new National Broadband Network is in place.

“Speaking as someone who lives in regional Tasmania, the achievements of these two small businesses are particularly pleasing.

“They show the talent that exists in our local areas and are a positive sign of the potential for Tasmania in the new NBN era.

“The NBN has the potential to revitalise regional small businesses by reducing the importance of location for doing business.”

For information on the Australian Government’s small business assistance measures visit www.ausindustry.gov.au email hotline@ausindustry.gov.au or call the AusIndustry Hotline on 13 28 46.

LAUNCESTON

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