



MEDIA RELEASE

SENATOR THE HON NICK SHERRY

Minister for Small Business
Minister Assisting on Deregulation and Public Sector Superannuation
Minister Assisting on Tourism

NEW ONLINE PACKAGE TO HELP SMALL BUSINESSES MANAGE EMERGENCIES

A new resources package to help small businesses deal with emergencies was launched today by the Minister for Small Business, Senator Nick Sherry.

The *Emergency Management & Recovery Resources* package was developed by the Australian Government's small business website, business.gov.au, in response to natural disasters in Australia over the past year.

"Natural disasters like cyclones, floods and bushfires are part of the Australian landscape," Senator Sherry said.

"Many businesses are just too busy with the demanding day-to-day task of running a small business to think about planning for unpredictable events. This package helps small businesses prepare for the worst, rather than hope for the best."

The launch took place at the Emergency Management and Business Continuity Summit in Sydney, attended by emergency management experts from around the world.

Speaking via a video stream, Senator Sherry said the package brought together the extensive range of government information in an easy-to-read format.

"The information is split into three important stages – prepare, take action and recover. Each stage includes a quick-action checklist," Senator Sherry said.

"The key feature of the package is a template with an instruction guide that businesses can use to create their own emergency management plan.

"This will help businesses to plan for a range of emergency scenarios, to minimise risk and develop contingency plans.

"Whether it's a robbery or a natural disaster, businesses can take steps to safeguard their livelihood.

"Pre-emptive actions could include backing up data, keeping an up-to-date list of important contacts or maintaining accurate insurance claim records.

"We're not far off our bushfire season and I encourage all small businesses to visit business.gov.au and start creating their emergency management plans," Senator Sherry said.

The *Emergency management & recovery* resources package can be found at www.business.gov.au/emergency.

CANBERRA

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