

MEDIA RELEASE

Sky's the limit for job seekers or school leavers with strong career prospects predicted in STEM, Space Technology and Manufacturing

- **\$74bn industry**
- **20,000 new jobs to be created in Space industry by 2030**
- **More than 70,000 businesses trading in manufacturing**
- **National Skills Week: 24 – 30 August 2020**

Sydney, 10 August 2020 – Australia's sixth largest industry, manufacturing and engineering, is heralded as one of the major growth sectors forecast to fast-track the recovery of Australia's economy and create thousands of new jobs in the long term.

Prior to Covid-19, the \$74 billion industry employed almost 850,000 workers covering a wide range of jobs involved in the manufacturing of food and beverages, petroleum and coal, polymer products, machinery, furniture and more (source: Australian Bureau of Statistics).

National Skills Week Chair Brian Wexham says a multitude of jobs are opening up for workers with skills in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) who can respond to shifts in technology.

"This is an important industry for Australia's future and you would be amazed at the myriad of career choices that are available," Mr Wexham said.

"With Covid resetting the playing field on global trade, Australia's manufacturing industry is undergoing rapid change to remain competitive. It's already been identified by government that a productive manufacturing sector is a key part of a thriving economy.

"Jobseekers should explore areas include mining and agriculture technologies, minerals processing, food and beverage manufacturing and areas of national priority including pharmaceuticals, medical technology, defence, energy, space, waste and recycling," he said.

Advanced Manufacturing a focus for job growth

"Advanced Manufacturing which covers technologies, processes and practices that enable manufacturers to improve their productivity and competitiveness, is a growth industry for jobs," Mr Wexham said.

Examples in advanced manufacturing technologies include additive manufacturing (3D printing), robotics and automation, advanced materials, artificial intelligence and machine learning, nanotechnologies, and biotechnologies.

"The future of Australia's manufacturing sector lies in embracing new technologies and developing high value-added products and services for the global marketplace."



Australian Space Agency aims to create 20,000 new jobs by 2030

Established by the Australian Government in July 2018, the Australian Space Agency located in Adelaide follows a \$300 million investment in Australian civil space as part of the 2018-19 Budget. The Agency's role is to grow Australia's space industry and aims to triple the size of the sector and create up to 20,000 new jobs by 2030.

Space technology and services covers areas such as weather forecasting, emergency management, internet access, online banking, GPS. The technology can also assist with farmers to monitor the health of crops, emergency response workers to track bushfires, autonomous mining vehicles among others.

Careers in space technology span a broad range of professions including:

- Administration: accounting, project management, human resources
- Astronaut
- Computing: data management and analytics, artificial intelligence
- Design: fabric, industrial, mechanical
- Education: historians, writers, teachers
- Engineering: aerospace, aircraft maintenance, avionics, electronics, flight test, mechanical, robotics, telecommunications
- Marketing: communications and public relations
- Pilot: commercial, emergency services, defence
- Research
- Space archaeologists and space anthropologists
- Space law
- Space medicine, psychology and medical research
- Space science: astrophysics, biology, meteorology, astronomy, geology
- Technicians and trades: electricians, welders, robotics, radar, manufacturing

National Skills Week raises awareness of the exciting and diverse range of careers which can be pursued through vocational education and training, as well as jobs in demand, skills gaps over the next five years, and information and resources on the training required to obtain them.

Mr Wexham said National Skills Week shines a light on the diversity of training and career opportunities available, pathways into training and education and the importance of trades, skills and VET to Australia's economic recovery.

The week plays a central role in assisting parents, students and jobseekers as to the many and varied careers out there for young people and asking them to think about matching their passions and skill strengths with career outcomes. A great place to start is the Federal Government's www.joboutlook.gov.au website, which does just that. +

National Skills Week this year runs from 24 – 30 August.

For further information, visit nationalskillsweek.com.au.

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