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KERRY SHINE MP

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Toowoomba manufacturers invited to gain the edge

Southern Queensland manufacturers wanting to gain ground in the face of global uncertainty and the high Australian dollar can enrol in a manufacturing efficiency program being run in Toowoomba in February.

Member for Toowoomba North Kerry Shine said the ProEdge Manufacturing Excellence Program would be run by QMI Solutions over five days.

"ProEdge offers participants the chance to learn practices used by world-class manufacturers to reduce costs, waste and lead time while improving quality and gaining competitive advantage," Mr Shine said.

"The most successful manufacturers are those that can identify and find solutions for the hidden waste in every business, including inventory, excess space and the movement of materials or people," he said.

"These are certainly challenging times, but government-supported programs like this have helped Queensland to be the only State in Australia to record expansion in manufacturing in the last four months of 2011."

QMI Solutions CEO Jim Walker said ProEdge was based on the principles of lean manufacturing.

"A central part of the program is a manufacturing simulation, which provides an interactive example of how to successfully apply and implement what is learnt over the five days," Mr Walker explained.

"We have been running ProEdge across the State since 2002, with overwhelming feedback from participants about the positive change it has made to their operations and, ultimately, their bottom lines.

"I'd encourage interested business owners to register soon because we know from experience that word spreads quickly and places fill fast."

The course has been subsidised by the State, reducing the cost to \$825 for the five days.

ProEdge Manufacturing Excellence Program

Where: The Downs Room, Burke and Wills Hotel, 554 Ruthven Street, Toowoomba

When: 7, 8, 9, 28 and 29 February 2012

Cost: \$825 including catering and all workbook materials.

For more information or to register visit www.qmisolutions.com.au/events.aspx or phone 3364 0621.

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