



Speech by

Hon. J. ELDER

MEMBER FOR CAPALABA

Hansard 11 November 1999

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Overseas Visit

Hon. J. P. ELDER (Capalaba—ALP) (Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development and Minister for Trade) (9.40 a.m.), by leave: I table a report to Parliament on my trip to the United States and Italy from 8 October to 23 October. In broad terms, in the United States section of this trip, we concentrated on information technology companies. I had meetings with large international companies such as Dascom, IBM and Oracle. I also had a productive meeting with construction giant Bechtel, which finalised the move of their Oceania headquarters from Melbourne to Brisbane, leading to 200 extra jobs in Queensland. In Nashville, Tennessee, I addressed the conference of the US Call Centre Association. I might add that I was the only overseas visitor to do so.

In Italy the State Government organised the Queensland showcase at Milan, where links were created between Italian and Queensland companies in biotechnology, light metals, ceramic tiles and fibre processing. I also addressed an Italian light metals conference and provided support for the Queensland delegation at the international Superyacht Fair at Genoa, where the State is attempting to capture some of the business which will flow from having 100 superyachts off the east coast of Australia next year in connection with the Olympic Games in Sydney.

For the consideration and examination of members of the House, I table a far more detailed report and a number of attachments that I am sure the House will find interesting.
