

**Question on Notice  
No. 1013  
Asked on 7 June 2006**

MR FINN asked the Minister for Small Business, Information Technology Policy and Multicultural Affairs (MR CUMMINS) —

QUESTION:

Will he provide an update on the International Trade Show Assistance Program?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his Question and would like to congratulate him on his ongoing strong support for the information and communications technology (ICT) industry within his electorate.

Queensland ICT and biotechnology companies are able to apply for financial support to participate on trade missions and exhibit at international trade shows via the International Trade Show Assistance Program.

The program provides a subsidy of up to \$5,000 for individual companies and up to \$10,000 for eligible ICT clusters. It aims to help Queensland ICT and biotechnology companies capture new business opportunities by taking their technology to relevant markets across the world.

Companies eligible to apply are Queensland-based small to medium enterprises that operate primarily in the ICT or biotechnology sectors and employ less than 100 people.

Over the past six years, 98 Queensland companies have been assisted to attend a wide cross-section of trade shows in locations across the globe in business sectors such as mining, e-learning, telecommunications, banking and transport. The USA, China, Taiwan and the UK have been the countries most visited by companies under the program, reflecting the importance of these markets and the capabilities of the Queensland companies.

Companies having benefited from this funding program have projected approximately \$300 million in future exports and over 400 new jobs.

Specifically, over the last financial year, the Queensland Government has provided 23 Queensland companies and clusters with funding totalling \$100,271 to attend trade events in 11 countries.

There are two more rounds of the program to be completed by December 2006. Round 14 opened on 13 June 2006 and closes on 14 July 2006.