

Minister Geoff Brock

Minister for Regional Development
Minister for Local Government

Thursday, 27 November 2014

\$175,000 regional grant for Booleroo Centre company expansion

A Regional Development Fund grant to Kelly Engineering at Booleroo Centre in the Mid North will lift the company's export potential and create new jobs over the next three years.

Regional Development Minister, Geoff Brock said Kelly Engineering had received a \$175,000 grant from the Small Grants Program of the State Government's Regional Development Fund in order to increase production of the iconic Kelly Diamond Harrow, as well as other products.

"Kelly Engineering is a multi-award winning family company leading the way in taking local products to the international market," Mr Brock said.

"The company is a recognised world leader in the custom construction of tillage equipment, and is a major regional employer for the Mid North.

"The Small Grants Program from the enhanced \$15 million a year Regional Development Fund supports small-scale projects creating sustainable economic benefits for South Australia or the regions.

"Kelly Engineering will be able to purchase equipment with this grant and construct facilities to help them achieve their goal of doubling their sales in the next three years.

"The higher production capacity will also mean the creation of four ongoing jobs within the next three years, along with all the other economic flow-on benefits this kind of business brings to a region.

Managing Director of Kelly Engineering, Shane Kelly said that the State Government grant meant that the company could immediately start work on their expansion project.

"Our new assembly areas and canopy enclosure will include purchasing new paint mixing/shot blasting equipment and a new gantry system and storage areas that will make production more efficient, and able to grow," Mr Kelly said.

"Kelly Engineering has its heart in Booleroo Centre and is committed to employing local people, which currently includes 13 apprentices.

"As we are a manufacturer of agricultural machinery, this project will sustain our manufacturing business in rural SA, keeping jobs in the local area.

“We anticipate our increased production capacity will lift sales turnover from \$25 million in 2013-14 to \$32 million within the next twelve months.

“Looking ahead, we anticipate that our exports will grow and we hope this will mean a 100 percent increase in sales to \$50 million per annum,” Mr Kelly said.