

News releases - Geoff Brock

\$200,000 grant for Golden North production line upgrade

Geoff Brock July 12, 2016

Many more of South Australia's Golden North ice creams will land in freezer cabinets here and abroad, thanks to a State Government grant to the iconic ice cream producer.

The Mid North business has been awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program to upgrade their ice cream production line in Laura, with an anticipated doubling of impulse production output.

The \$595,000 project will provide a dedicated production line for 'impulse' products (including Golden North Giant Twins, swings, cups and tubes) and will allow the company to introduce new products to their range.

The new equipment will improve the company's production through greater processing capacity, and new freezing and packaging equipment.

Background

Golden North Ice Cream is a wholly South Australian owned and operated manufacturing business based in Laura, in the state's Mid North.

The \$2 million Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program is a once-off grants program, opened in November 2015 in recognition of the challenges brought about by the downturn of the resources sector and the impending closure of the Port Augusta power station and Leigh Creek coal mine.

Grants have been made available from \$50,000 up to \$200,000 in 2015-16 for small projects in the eligible area.

The program supports the delivery of small projects that will contribute to economic diversification, resilience and capacity building of Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback communities, creating sustainable economic benefits to the region and the State.

This project aligns with the State Government's economic priority of *Premium food and wine produced in our clean environment and exported to the world.*

Quotes attributable to Regional Development Minister Geoff Brock

Golden North is the largest employer in Laura and this impulse production line upgrade will result in the creation of three new ongoing jobs for the area.

The State Government is pleased to assist in the investment of new equipment for Golden North which will allow the business to increase production and meet market trends nationally and internationally.

With this project, Golden North aims to increase productivity, export potential, investment, population and job creation. This will secure their reputation as a premium food and wine producer.

Projects awarded funding through the Upper Spencer Gulf and Outback Futures Program will stimulate new business activity, support stronger communities, and create job opportunities in the region.

Quotes attributable to Golden North General Manager Peter Adamo

Thanks to this grant we are able to progress our plans to upgrade the facility to improve efficiency, increase capacity and enable us to meet the market demand for our premium products domestically and internationally.

This upgrade to our production line continues to build the capacity of our manufacturing facility, which will result in more than doubling our current impulse production capacity.

Increased production and the development of new products will play an important role in our expansion into interstate and export markets.

Golden North is the largest employer in the town, and looking after the sustainability of Golden North will look after the sustainability of the region.