

Sustainability, technology and the future on innovation agenda

Futurists, scientists and designers will share their expertise with Melbourne business owners at the inaugural Innovation Showcase on 16 June 2011.

The event at Hemisphere Conference Centre in Moorabbin will feature a Q&A panel led by the ABC's Virginia Trioli to discuss industry innovation in today's world of limited resources.

The South East Melbourne Innovation Precinct (SEMIP) is presenting the showcase, which aims to assist small to medium organisations in identifying business opportunities, as well as providing access to government representatives and the leaders of major research facilities.

Kerry Hayes, Chair of the Innovation Showcase and Business Development Manager at the Australian Synchrotron, said the event would feature industry leaders from a range of fields.

"Organisations involved in presentations, panels or breakout sessions include the CSIRO, Monash University, Carbon Planet and world-class local businesses such as Invetech, MiniFAB and Grey Innovation.

"Topics relate to open innovation, biotechnology, medical technology, and manufacturing.

"I encourage all businesses looking for opportunities in innovation and commercialisation to take advantage of the SEMIP Innovation Showcase," Ms Hayes said.

Jürgen Schneider of Siemens Australia, who will be presenting during the Q&A session, said he would discuss how companies could identify effective sustainability strategies to implement and develop new products and processes.

"In today's competitive market, businesses should always look at how they can innovate to grow and improve their organisation and the Innovation Showcase provides an ideal and affordable way to do so," Mr Schneider said.

For further information on the SEMIP Innovation Showcase program or to register, visit innovation2011.com.au.

For media enquiries, images and interview requests, contact Christina Koullas, CK PR, 03 9495 0387, 0425 670 110 or Christina@ckpr.com.au