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Previous Borbidge Government 20 February 1996 to 26 June 1998 Tourism, Manufacturing and Small Business The Honourable Jan Jarratt

Tuesday, November 29, 2011

Big Idea nets \$25,000 for Underwood fencing company

Inspiration can come in the blink of an eye or from months scrambling across South American terrain. Ideas can be conceived in a city of millions or a town of 1000 residents. Reward may grow from one person's self-satisfaction to a life-changing windfall for entire communities.

The Bligh Government and Ai Group have combined to recognise the diversity of ingenuity, awarding sums of up to \$50,000 to 31 bright sparks across

Announcing the winners of round two in the \$5.5 million What's Your Big Idea Queensland? initiative, Tourism, Manufacturing and Small Business Minister Jan Jarratt was impressed by the scope of submissions.

"From developing an artificial heart in Wilston, to underwater touch screens in Cairns, to a company in Toowoomba literally trying to reinvent the wheel – Queensland is a breeding ground for innovation," Ms Jarratt said.

"It truly is encouraging to witness Queensland becoming a place where our residents not only dare to dream, but they see a clear pathway to making dreams a reality.

"Small to medium businesses across the State will flourish as a result of this initiative, delivering far-reaching benefits for their respective regions and industries."

Member for Woodridge Desley Scott said among the big ideas to catch the eye of the judging panel this round was the CliknFit Gate System, produced by Underwood company Superior Screens.

"This company has designed the easiest, quickest and most economical gate in Australia," Ms Scott said.

"By incorporating an innovative slatting design, these gate systems can be put together by any person, with no technical knowledge, and with only basic tools," she said.

"Australia's manufacturing industry is facing some changing circumstances however companies such as Superior Screens are coming up with innovative ways to meet these challenges head on.

"As a winner of What's Your Big Idea Oueensland?Superior Screens has been awarded \$25,000 to launch the CliknFit Gate System to the world."

Ai Group Queensland Director Matthew Martyn-Jones said the widespread winners proved there were no limitations on ingenuity.

"Ai Group is pleased to once again be partnering with the Queensland Government to deliver the What's Your Big Idea Queensland?innovation program.

A lot of heavy lifting is needed if we are to improve Australia's productivity performance, and boosting our innovation effort is a critical element to drive a

"This year's What's Your Big Idea Queensland? program has been a huge success with over 900 applications over two rounds from interested businesses around the State.

"The ideas proposed showcase a wide range of home-grown Queensland talent that has set a high bar for businesses across Australia."

For more information on 'What's Your Big Idea Queensland?' visit www.bigideagld.com.au

Media contact: 3225 2005

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