Rob Knight
MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

22 September 2011

Developing Strong Ties and Securing the Territory’s Future

Minister for Business and Employment Rob Knight will travel to Europe this week to better position Territory business to maximize from the future oil and gas boom.

Mr Knight will meet with companies in Norway and Scotland that are developing strong ties with the Territory in the oil and gas and Defence support industries, and then travel to Ireland to promote the Territory to skilled workers.

Norwegian company, DOF Subsea has undertaken a period of highly targeted investment in line with the rapid expansion and development in the Asia Pacific offshore oil and gas market.

“The company established an office in Darwin in 2010 with a focus on delivering relevant and specific services to the local hub for the development of major oil and gas fields in the Timor Sea and the Bonaparte Gulf,” said Mr Knight.

Mr Knight will also lead an industry delegation in Aberdeen to further grow business links between the two oil and gas supply and service centres.

The NT delegation will tour the ASCO Marine Supply Base at Peterhead with a view to getting a firsthand understanding of how a world class Marine Supply Base operates and the contribution it makes to local economic development.

“This is significant because ASCO, in conjunction with Darwin company Shorelands, have just been announced the preferred bidder to develop a world class Marine Supply Base in Darwin,” Mr Knight said.

“With potentially in excess of $240 billion of new gas projects being developed in Australia over the next 10 years, including the INPEX project in Darwin, the demand for labour will only grow.

“The Northern Territory is moving in the right direction, as a result the demand for skilled workers is only set to increase as major projects come online in the Territory now and in to the future.”

Media Contact: Gino Luglietti 0401119794