Paul Henderson
CHIEF MINISTER

Thursday 6 November 2008

3,900 New Jobs in the Territory

Chief Minister Paul Henderson today welcomed new employment figures, showing continuing strong jobs growth in the Northern Territory.

Mr Henderson said trend employment grew by 5 per cent in the year to October – or nearly 3,900 jobs.

“The unemployment rate fell by 1.9 per cent to 3 per cent over the same period,” Mr Henderson said.

“The unemployment rate rose from 2.9 per cent in September to 3.0 per cent in October, but total employment and participation are up over the month.”

“These figures show that the Territory economy is continuing to perform strongly – if you want a job in the Territory you can get one.

“This is great news for Territorians and shows the benefits of our strong economic growth are flowing through to families.”

Mr Henderson said new figures also showed the Territory’s goods trade surplus more than doubled during the past year.

“The figures show our goods trade surplus is at its highest level since April 2002, increasing by $1.13 billion to $2.2 billion in the year to September 2008,” he said.

“A strong economy doesn’t happen by accident – but through planning and fresh ideas – which is why companies such as INPEX are choosing to invest in the Northern Territory.”

Mr Henderson said nowhere would be exempt from the fallout from the global financial crisis, but the Territory was well placed to withstand any impact.

“Our strong economic growth, the decision by Inpex to invest in the Territory and Australia’s stable financial system means we are in a good position to withstand any fall out.”

Contact: Geoff Fraser 0407 360 256