Media Release

Peter Styles
Minister for Business

**NT Government grants inspire innovation**

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Northern Territory businesses with innovative ideas will have the support of the Northern Territory Government to turn them into realities through its Business Innovation Support Initiatives (BISI).

Minister for Business Peter Styles said the BISI program includes vouchers of up to $25,000 and round-based and competitive grants of up to $60,000 to commercialise innovations.

“The Country Liberals Government understands innovation drives productivity and competitiveness by turning new ideas into commercially successful, new products, processes and services,” Mr Styles said.

“Science and innovation will be a critical enabler of short, medium and long term economic development in the NT.

“These BISI grants assist Territory businesses to commence research, undertake feasibility studies, build prototypes and develop activities and trials.”

The three successful applicants from the previous BISI grants round are examples of the types of projects being assisted.

These included: SRA Information Technology Pty Ltd for an Unmanned Aerial System or drone with the potential to save lives as a tool for search and rescue operations; Centre for Appropriate Technology (CAT), for extending the CAT mobile phone hotspots to provide greater mobile coverage in remote NT areas and Maitec for the development of a drone to map conditions of agricultural fields and plantations in the tropic.

Mr Styles said since the BISI program’s inception on 1 July 2014, $186,000 worth of vouchers had been awarded to 10 applicants and $136,000 in BISI grants have been awarded to a total of four successful applicants.

“Innovative businesses are proven to be more sustainable, productive and efficient and, in turn, employ more people,” he said.

“The Country Liberals Government is committed to fostering a culture of innovation within the Northern Territory business community.”
Small to medium NT-based and NT-registered businesses or incorporated non-profit organisations, with a valid Australian Business Number and fewer than 100 employees are eligible to apply for the BISI program.

For more information or to apply visit www.dob.nt.gov.au/bisi.

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