24 June 2004
Business Opportunities on show at this year's NT Expo

Acting Chief Minister Syd Stirling will tonight host a reception at Parliament House to welcome visitors and locals to the Territory’s premier Trade, Business and Consumer show – NT Expo 2004.

More than 250 local, interstate and international businesses will use the 35th annual NT Expo, which kicks off at Darwin High School tomorrow, to promote their products and services. More than 20,000 people visited the Expo last year, with similar numbers expected at this year’s event.

International exhibitors from Indonesia, Brunei, the Philippines and Malaysia will be in attendance, along with trade delegations from Sabah, the Philippines and Anhui Province in China.

“The theme of this year’s Expo is ‘maximising business opportunities’ – and at a time when so many major projects are coming on line here in the Territory it is extremely fitting,” Mr Stirling said.

“There are enormous business opportunities coming out of the construction of the Wickham Point LNG Plant and the upcoming Darwin City Waterfront project, as well as significant tourism opportunities which will flow from Government’s $60 million injection into tourism infrastructure.

“In addition, the railway is already performing well above expectations. Export freight has already left our shores for Asia, highlighting that the Australasia Trade Route is well on its way to becoming a working reality.

“These projects are helping to keep the Territory moving ahead and mean contracts for Territory businesses and jobs for Territorians in a wide range of areas from road construction to hospitality.”

Mr Stirling congratulated the NT Chamber of Commerce on the work they had put into organising the Expo.

Features include a large display from the Australian Trucking Association, the NT Holiday and Travel Show from Tourism Top End and the NT Tourist Commission, a Mini-Money expo, and displays from nine wineries.

The International Business Council of the Chamber of Commerce, Austrade and the NT Department of Business, Industry and Resource Development will jointly coordinate business matching activities throughout the Expo program.

NT Expo 2004 runs from June 25 to 27 on the grounds at Darwin High School.