



media release

SME ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA UNDERGOES BOARD RESTRUCTURE

Monday March 10, 2014. In late February, SME Association of Australia (SMEAA) Founder and Executive Chairman Matthew Johnson announced his intention to step down as Executive Chairman of the SMEAA due to growing business commitments.

The SMEAA was established in late 2011 and as the Founder of the SMEAA Johnson has been a very strong, vocal advocate of the association and will continue as a Director on the board. Johnson looks forward to an ongoing contribution to the SME community in Australia, a move supported by incoming Chairman Craig West.

West is the CEO of Succession Plus, a long-term advocate and supporter of the SMEAA.

In taking over as SMEAA Chairman, West thanked Johnson for his vision, contribution, efforts and commitment to establishing the SME Association of Australia.

“The Australian SME community should be very grateful that people like Matt had the vision, commitment and energy to establish an organisation to represent the vast number of SMEs throughout the country,” West said. “The vision and founding principles introduced by Matt will be strongly followed and supported going forward.

“I’m extremely grateful that Matt has been able to accept my invitation to stay on as a board member – I hope to continue to rely on Matt for support and guidance, as he has done an excellent job building the organisation into a strong and viable association of business owners to represent the needs of the SME community to government, large businesses and the Australian public.”

West also confirmed that the board had a number of immediate priorities the first being the appointment of a CEO for SMEAA and he expected to make that announcement before the end of this month.

[Continues...](#)

Another will be the expansion of the board with the addition of new directors with a diverse and dynamic blend of business skills, backgrounds and expertise at the helm to lead the Association.

West is confident that the appointment of the first new director will be made in a matter of weeks.

In addition, over the next quarter, the SMEAA board will be meeting with State and Federal governments and several of the Small Business Commissioners throughout the country.

Craig West concluded, "As the peak body dedicated to being the leading voice of Australia's SME business owners with over 18,500 members, SMEAA is committed to continuing its vital role representing Australia's SMEs as this sector is the most important driver of this nation's long term economic viability and prosperity."

ENDS

Issued by the SME Association of Australia www.smeaustralia.asn.au

Media Enquiries: Mr. Joe Perri
 Joe Perri & Associates Pty Ltd
 Telephone/Fax: +61 3 9324 0362
 Mobile: +61 412 112 545
 Email: jperri@joeperri.com.au