

## The Hon Richard Dalla-Riva MLC

Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations Minister for Manufacturing, Exports and Trade

Friday 27 May 2011

## Victorian company makes mini things with major impact

Minister for Manufacturing, Exports and Trade Richard Dalla-Riva last night presented Scoresby-based nanotechnology firm MiniFAB with the Enabling Technology Company of the Year award at the 2011 Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame (VMHF) awards.

"MiniFAB is an outstanding example of the type of inventiveness and entrepreneurship that makes Victoria a leading centre for innovation," Mr Dalla-Riva said.

"MiniFAB is now established as a leading developer and manufacturer of real world solutions and products that use micro and nano technologies.

"Examples of the application of this technology include diagnostic systems for cancer detection, infectious, genetic and eye diseases," Mr Dalla-Riva said.

Specialising in the design, integration and manufacture of polymer micro-engineered systems, MiniFab is recognised by the USA Plastics Industry as one of only 10 'Hero' companies in the world for its level of expertise in micro-technology injection moulding.

MiniFAB's expertise is highly sought-after in international markets with more than 90 per cent of the business servicing international accounts across North America, Benelux, France and the UK, including several Fortune 500 companies.

MiniFAB's achievements also provide strong examples of how nano-technologies are working to improve lives. MiniFAB's nanotechnology expertise lies in the packaging and integration of micro and nano technologies into applications such as applying nano-bio films to a microfluidic chip and then incorporating it into a complete system for applications such as diagnostics.

The company has also developed numerous devices and components, including microchemical reactors, biosensor cartridges, bio-fluidic handling systems and connectors and integrated components such as valves, pumps and optical elements.

The VMHF recognises the groundbreaking achievements of individuals and companies within Victoria's manufacturing sector, which contributes more than \$30 billion in gross state product, employs over 300,000 people and at the aggregate level is Victoria's lead export sector.

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