



MEDIA RELEASE

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CCCI's Business Connections Event Showcases Cutting-Edge Autonomous Mining Technology FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) is proud to present the latest edition of our *Business Connections* series, made possible by funding from *Workforce Australia Local Jobs South West*, through the *Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations*. This event offers an exclusive opportunity to explore world-leading mining technology at the WesTrac Technology Training Centre (WTTC), Collie.

As the first facility of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, the WTTC has been at the forefront of training technicians in the autonomous mining industry since March 2020. Supporting local businesses and providing state-of-the-art training services, this cutting-edge facility plays a crucial role in Collie's evolving economy.

With 42 attendees, the event provided an immersive experience, featuring hands-on training programs for autonomous equipment, networking opportunities with industry experts, and insights into the future of mining technology. Participants explored a cutting-edge facility showcasing CAT 789D Autonomous Haul Trucks, Virtual Reality CAT Software, Site-Aware Vehicles, and the newly appointed CAT D10 Next Gen Remote Dozer. This experience reinforced Collie's position as a leader in advanced workforce development.

Quotes attributed to:

Kate Monaghan, Employment Facilitator, shared her thoughts on the significance of these events: *"The Collie Business Connections events continue to be an asset to the community, with this month's event highlighting the diversity of opportunities available for upskilling as Collie moves towards a Net Zero Future."*

Natalie Cook, Chairperson of Collie CCCI, expressed her enthusiasm: *"This event highlights Collie's commitment to fostering innovation and developing a highly skilled workforce for the future of mining. By providing hands-on training with cutting-edge autonomous technology, we are equipping industry professionals with the expertise needed to drive progress. Collie continues to lead the way in workforce development, ensuring we remain at the forefront of industry advancements."*

Tara van Beuningen, CEO of Collie CCI, extended her heartfelt thanks to WesTrac for hosting the event and expressed appreciation to the team for sharing invaluable insights that are shaping the future of



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autonomous mining. "We're proud to connect local businesses and industry leaders, providing them with the opportunity to network and witness the remarkable potential for Collie's economic development," said Tara van Beuningen, CEO of Collie CCI. She also acknowledged Workforce Australia Local Jobs South West for their support and Tailored Grazing for providing the delicious food that contributed to the event's success. Tara expressed gratitude to all attendees for their active participation and valuable contributions.

This Business Connections event embodies CCCI's commitment to supporting local businesses and driving economic development through community-led initiatives.

About Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI)

The Collie Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI) is a proactive organisation dedicated to promoting business excellence, community growth, and economic prosperity in Collie. Through events like Business Connections, CCCI supports local businesses and individuals, empowering them to thrive and contribute meaningfully to the community.