



**The Hon Andrew Stoner MP**  
**Deputy Premier of NSW**  
**Minister for Trade and Investment**  
**Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

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Thursday 2 February 2012

**\$500,000 IN R&D VOUCHERS ON OFFER FOR NSW  
SMALL BUSINESS**

Small and medium businesses in NSW are being encouraged to apply for up to \$15,000 worth of access to research equipment and technical expertise to help them become more innovative and competitive.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Trade and Investment Andrew Stoner today announced that eligible small and medium businesses can now apply for the second round of the NSW Government's TechVouchers, with a pool of \$500,000 available.

"The TechVouchers pilot program develops commercialisation pathways by establishing connections between industry and research organisations," Mr Stoner said.

"The vouchers worth up to \$15,000 help businesses get better access to cutting-edge research to develop and improve their products, services and practices.

"The NSW Government is committed to increasing investment and growth opportunities for NSW businesses by fostering and supporting innovation.

"Businesses from a range of industries are eligible to apply, including those in agriculture, ICT and manufacturing, to name just a few.

"To apply for a TechVoucher, businesses need to propose a project which will significantly benefit from a partnership with a research organisation – whether it is for further research, clinical trials or access to scientific equipment to support product development.

"I encourage businesses across NSW to consider how their products and services might be improved through partnering with a research organisation.

"We are particularly keen to see applications from businesses that have not previously worked with universities or researchers, and businesses located in regional NSW," Mr Stoner said.

For more information including application forms and guidelines visit  
[www.business.nsw.gov.au/techvouchers](http://www.business.nsw.gov.au/techvouchers).