



Department of  
Primary Industries and  
Regional Development



# Regional Economic Development Grants

## Cays Engineering



The Regional Economic Development Grants program, commonly known as RED Grants, is a \$45.8 million (over eight years) State Government initiative that invests in locally-driven projects to stimulate economic growth and development in regional Western Australia.

Cays Engineering was one of six recipients from Round 1 RED Grants in 2018-2019. The Grant funding of \$95,000 enabled the company to build and fit out an in-house paint yard and blast room for fabricated products such as chutes and impact plates, primarily for the mining industry. Prior to project completion, Cays transported products offsite for this stage of the manufacturing process compromising both productivity and quality.

### Expanding Industry

The greatest impact of the grant on the business has been *“there is support for us to expand and get recognition from key customers. Rio Tinto is Cays Engineering’s major customer for mining and the fact that we can have the paint yard facility, gives us a chance to renew our contract with them. Having the paint yard on site, has also increased customer confidence in the quality of products”*.

The contract renewal gave the business the opportunity to expand, recruit more people, be more self-sufficient and be noticed as a significant supplier to the mining industry.

Teresa Twining, the Finance Director at Cays Engineering said receiving the grant made Cays staff feel *“very privileged that the company was able to tell our story and with the grant being local, it gave us a sense that we are being supported by the region.”*



## Jobs Creation

The project has benefited the wider community and industry through increased employment, skills and local capability. The RED grant directly assisted with the creation of 5-10 additional positions, of which most people employed are locals. With an increase in turnover, the company had the opportunity to recruit additional staff members, specifically creating more junior positions for people to upskill and gain exposure the industry, opening doors to a career pathway. The roles and positions created were within the workshop area including trade assistants, painters and paint inspectors. Cays have also doubled their number of apprentices from 6 to 12 positions.

The development of the on-site paint yard increased productivity and ensured quality, enabling Cays to expand and diversify their company's client base. Rio Tinto is the company's main mining industry client, but the company has also secured other work from organisations such as FMG, BHP and recently won a contract with Metronet.

### The objectives of the Round 1 RED Grants Program included:

- Sustainable jobs growth
- Increasing productivity
- Expanding or diversifying industry
- Developing skills or capabilities
- Attracting new investment in the region



## Local Content

A key factor in assessing RED grant applications is consideration of a project's ability to benefit the broader Peel economy and other businesses in the supply chain. This project has seen an increase in collaboration with several local businesses and contractors including:

- A local Peel business to source and supply the steel and material parts
- Supply of consumable parts such as paint and masks
- Use of local labour hire companies to recruit workers

According to Ms Twining, the grant has spurred the business on to a number of future plans and local investment. The grant has helped stabilise the mining side of the company and enabled the business to invest money back into the local economy, including plans to build another workshop within the complex to house all the currently exposed mining equipment.

Overall, the Peel Development Commission is pleased to see the RED grant providing opportunities for Cays Engineering to expand and diversify their business, contributing to skills development for local people and supply chain opportunities for local businesses.

## Outcomes Achieved

RED Objective	Project Outcomes
Sustainable Jobs	5-10 additional FTEs
Expanding or diversifying industry	300% increase in business for mining/ maintenance
Increasing productivity	Reduced turnaround time for blasting and painting to less than 2 days Reduction in transport costs.
Local content	Increased purchase of consumables from local suppliers by more than 10%
Developing skills or capabilities	6 additional apprenticeships 3 trades assistants trained in painting and blasting

For more information about Peel Regional Economic Development Grants, please visit our website – [www.peel.wa.gov.au](http://www.peel.wa.gov.au) or contact us on 9535 4140.

For further information about Cays Engineering head to <https://www.cays.com.au>

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Creating jobs  
Diverse industries**



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