MEDIA RELEASE

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NEW JOBS OF TOMORROW INDUSTRY PARTNER

NSW Minister for Skills John Barilaro met with local school students, teachers, and employers in Maitland, to welcome the 23rd NSW Jobs of Tomorrow industry partnership.

Maitland Business Chamber is the latest regional employer group to sign up to the NSW Government's Jobs of Tomorrow scholarship scheme, which will help students studying vocational training in science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM).

"This is a fantastic step for the Chamber and is creating unique opportunities for employees who will have even more opportunity to tap into the skills they need to secure a job," Mr Barilaro said.

The Government's \$25 million Jobs of Tomorrow program offers students subsidised training in nearly 70 high-level qualifications in fields like nursing and healthcare, engineering, surveying, and information and communications technology.

"Giving more people access to training in STEM subjects is part of our broader commitment to developing a highly skilled workforce, ready to take on the future under Smart & Skilled," Mr Barilaro said.

"Industry partnerships are essential to connect students with businesses and industry to guide and support them during their training."

"Vocational training is a great way to develop skills to be ready for work after high school – or for people to retrain and upskill for a career change.

Since the scholarship opened in January almost 800 people have already been approved for a \$1,000 Jobs of Tomorrow Scholarship supporting STEM-related studies.

Pierre Malou, Vice-President of Maitland Business Chamber and Managing Director of Smart Sports said the scholarship program was critical to help diversify and grow the regional economy.

"In the Hunter region, the mining industry has been quite prevalent. Having a new generation of students learning engineering is definitely an advantage and has the potential to beneficially impact our region," Mr Malou said.

"The local ME program has demonstrated ability to inspire students interested in maths and engineering. Diversification into SMART specialised work is critical to job creation.

Rob Monteath, Director of Monteath & Powys and member of the Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW (an industry partner) said the Jobs of Tomorrow scholarships are critical to support his business, which develops innovative technologies such as 3D laser scanning and aerial mapping by drones.

"We know NSW will soon be facing a shortage of registered surveyors, technicians, mappers and spatial engineers," Mr Monteath said.

"Investing in mathematics, science, engineering and technology education and training is critical to ensure the industry can meet this challenge."

The NSW Government recently extended Job of Tomorrow scholarships to the Certificate III in Aviation, specifically to support rapidly growing demand for pilots of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (drones), an industry that is expected to more than double in size in the next twelve months.

For more information about the Jobs of Tomorrow industry partnership program visit https://smartandskilled.nsw.gov.au/for-students/scholarships/jobs-of-tomorrow-scholarships#q5

MEDIA: John Morrison | Minister Barilaro | 0439 281 482

Current Jobs of Tomorrow industry partners include:

Adobe Systems

Association of Consulting Surveyors NSW

Australian Computer Society Foundation

Australian Constructors Association

Australian Digital and Telecommunications Industry Association

Australian Industry Group (Ai Group)

Australian Information Industry Association

Australian Water Association

Aviation/Aerospace Australia

Bale Defence Industries

Consult Australia

Deepend

Google Australia

Illawarra Business Chamber

Maitland Business Chamber

Master Builders Association NSW

NSW Business Chamber

NSW Council of Social Service

NSW Wine Industry Association

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Tourism & Transport Forum

WiseTech Global