

Mediaportal Report

22/04/2008

- ▶ **Skilled workers a big issue for SMEs**
Sunshine Coast Daily, 22/04/08, General News, Page 22
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035607362**
114 words
- ▶ **Looking to changes from summit**
Summaries - Australian Financial Review, 22/04/08, Enterprise, Page 43
By: Mark Fenton-Jones
Clip Ref: **00035620045**
167 words

21/04/2008

- ▶ **Not a concern**
Adelaide Advertiser, 21/04/08, Business News, Page 60
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035566518**
50 words
- ▶ **Skills lack hits SMEs**
Newcastle Herald, 21/04/08, General News, Page 20
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035571587**
60 words
- ▶ **Staffing is main problem for SME**
Northern Territory News, 21/04/08, Business News, Page 29
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035570259**
146 words
- ▶ **Workers the problem**
Geelong Advertiser, 21/04/08, General News, Page 18
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035572421**
104 words
- ▶ **Loans no problem:**
Launceston Examiner, 21/04/08, General News, Page 19
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035574504**
132 words
- ▶ **SMEs doing fine**
Gold Coast Bulletin, 21/04/08, Business News, Page 38
By: None
Clip Ref: **00035574754**
104 words

COPYRIGHT This report and its contents are for the use of Media Monitors' subscribers only and may not be provided to any third party for any purpose whatsoever without the express written permission of Media Monitors Australia Pty Ltd.

DISCLAIMER The material contained in this report is for general information purposes only. Any figures in this report are an estimation and should not be taken as definitive statistics. Subscribers should refer to the original article before making any financial decisions or forming any opinions. Media Monitors makes no representations and, to the extent permitted by law, excludes all warranties in relation to the information contained in the report and is not liable to you or to any third party for any losses, costs or expenses, resulting from any use or misuse of the report.

▶ **Rate pain not too bad: survey**
Border Mail, 21/04/08, General News, Page 46
By: None

Clip Ref: 00035580245

104 words

COPYRIGHT This report and its contents are for the use of Media Monitors' subscribers only and may not be provided to any third party for any purpose whatsoever without the express written permission of Media Monitors Australia Pty Ltd.

DISCLAIMER The material contained in this report is for general information purposes only. Any figures in this report are an estimation and should not be taken as definitive statistics. Subscribers should refer to the original article before making any financial decisions or forming any opinions. Media Monitors makes no representations and, to the extent permitted by law, excludes all warranties in relation to the information contained in the report and is not liable to you or to any third party for any losses, costs or expenses, resulting from any use or misuse of the report.





Skilled workers a big issue for SMEs

AUSTRALIAN small and medium-sized enterprises were not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises.

A survey conducted for four weeks in March and April by accountancy and tax advisory practice MGI, has found credit presented only isolated problems, with most businesses saying the difficulty was employing workers.

“Most of the SMEs surveyed rated lack of skilled workers as a much more serious issue for them than arranging or maintaining financing for their businesses,” MGI spokesperson Des Caulfield said.

“Our research indicates that this sector, which is the nation’s major employer, is in good shape.”

Mr Caulfield also said SMEs were concerned about the payroll tax they were charged when hiring workers.

HEADLINE: Looking to changes from summit

AUTHOR: Mark Fenton-Jones

Small business has welcomed proposals at the Australia 2020 Summit to cut red tape, improve the skilled labour force and promote innovation. A recent survey by MGI showed that the skills shortage and state payroll tax were the biggest issues of concern for small and medium enterprises. The managing director of Tasmanian firm Ashgrove Cheese, Jane Bennett, said it would be a 'tragedy' if federal and state Labor governments failed to act on regulatory reforms. Other proposals at the ideas summit included a funding scheme for parental leave, and National Australia Bank CEO Ahmed Fahour's push to deliver affordable loans to small business operators. The Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry was more concerned with creating a broadly based services economy. 'Impediments to the efficient functioning of services industries need to be identified,' ACCI director and Park Homes CEO Tony Park wrote in a paper prior to last weekend's summit. 'Investment in technology and skills development is as important for entrepreneurs as it is for students and employees,' Mr Park said.

© Media Monitors Pty Ltd 2008

This summary may not be provided to any third party for any purpose without the express permission of Media Monitors Pty Limited ABN 11 002 533 851. Summary may be subject to error or omission. Subscribers should refer to the original article before making any financial decisions or forming any opinions.

MENTIONS: MGI, Australia 2020 Summit, Ashgrove Cheese, Labor, National Australia Bank, Ahmed Fahour, Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Park Homes



Newcastle Herald

21/04/2008

Page: 20

General News

Region: Newcastle NSW Circulation: 51000

Type: Regional

Size: 21.86 sq.cms

MTWTFS-

Skills lack hits SMEs

AUSTRALIAN small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) were not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises, a survey found.

Credit presented only isolated problems but difficulty in employing skilled workers was more of a concern. The survey of 350 SMEs was done by MGI, an association of more than 200 accounting firms in 75 countries, in March and April.

AAP



Staffing is main problem for SME

SYDNEY: Australian small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises, a survey shows.

Credit presents only isolated problems and most businesses say the difficulty in employing workers is more of a problem, MGI, an association of more than 200 accounting firms in 75 countries said.

"Most of the SMEs surveyed rated lack of skilled workers as a much more serious issue for them than arranging or maintaining financing for their businesses," MGI managing committee member Des Caulfield said.

"Our research indicates that this sector, which is the nation's major employer, is in

good shape."

Mr Caulfield also said SMEs were concerned about the amount of payroll tax they were charged when hiring workers.

MGI surveyed 350 of its clients in Australia by phone and face to face, over four weeks in March and April.



Aussie corner deli



Workers the problem

AUSTRALIAN small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises according to a survey.

Credit presents only isolated problems and most businesses say the difficulty in employing workers is more of a problem, according to MGI, an association of more than 200 account-

ing firms in 75 countries.

“Most of the SMEs surveyed rated lack of skilled workers as a much more serious issue for them than arranging or maintaining financing for their businesses,” MGI managing committee member Des Caulfield said.

“Our research indicates that this sector, which is the nation’s major employer, is in good shape.”



Launceston Examiner

21/04/2008

Page: 19

General News

Region: Launceston TAS Circulation: 34358

Type: Regional

Size: 41.23 sq.cms

MTWTFS-

Loans no problem:

Australian small and medium-sized enterprises are not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises, according to a survey by MGI, a global association of accounting firms. Credit presents only isolated problems and most businesses say the difficulty in employing workers is more of a problem. "Most of the SMEs surveyed rated lack of skilled workers as a much more serious issue for them than arranging or maintaining financing for their businesses," MGI managing committee member Des Caulfield said. "Our research indicates that this sector, which is the nation's major employer, is in good shape." Mr Caulfield also said SMEs were concerned about the amount of payroll tax they were charged when hiring workers. MGI surveyed 350 of its clients in Australia by phone and face to face in March and April.



Gold Coast Bulletin

21/04/2008

Page: 38

Business News

Region: Gold Coast QLD Circulation: 42529

Type: Regional

Size: 37.72 sq.cms

MTWTF--

SMEs doing fine

AUSTRALIAN small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) are not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises, according to a survey.

Credit presents only isolated problems and most businesses say the difficulty in employing workers is more of a problem, according to MGI, an association of more than 200 accounting firms in 75 countries.

“Most of the SMEs surveyed rated lack of skilled workers as a much more serious issue for them than arranging or maintaining financing for their businesses,” said MGI managing committee member Des Caulfield.

“Our research indicates that this sector, which is the nation’s major employer, is in good shape.”



Border Mail

21/04/2008

Page: 46

General News

Region: Albury-Wodonga VIC Circulation: 25499

Type: Regional

Size: 34.27 sq.cms

MTWTFS-

Rate pain not too bad: survey

SMALL and medium-sized enterprises are not expecting difficulty with loan repayments despite recent interest rate rises, according to a survey.

Credit presents only isolated problems and most businesses say the difficulty in employing workers is more of a problem, according to MGI, an association of more than 200 accounting firms in 75 countries.

"Most of the SMEs surveyed rated lack of skilled workers as a much more serious issue for them than arranging or maintaining financing for their businesses," MGI managing committee member Des Caulfield said.

"Our research indicates that this sector, which is the nation's major employer, is in good shape."