Regional Victoria has a proud manufacturing history building on industries specialising in the manufacture of food, transport equipment, power supply products, defence and construction materials. This tradition is combined with leading skills, infrastructure, education and research that make Victoria a leading location for advanced manufacturing. Manufacturing remains the biggest economic sector in regional Victoria.

ADVANCING MANUFACTURING IN REGIONAL VICTORIA

Manufacturing in regional Victoria is centred around Victoria’s vibrant regional cities, offering close-knit communities and collaborative business clusters and networks. These, in addition to low costs, affordable industrial land, access to high-quality raw materials and resources, and strategic road and rail links to Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide, are supported by strong freight transport and logistics capabilities.

VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS

The Victorian Government is investing in regional Victoria, with:

- $500 million Regional Jobs and Infrastructure Fund to boost jobs and investment in regional Victoria.
- Nine Regional Partnerships providing opportunities for communities to have their say on local issues and provide a direct voice into government decision making.
- $1.5 billion to revive Victoria’s regional rail network.
- More than $500 million to rebuild the regional road network, double road maintenance investment, upgrade bridges and construct new bypasses.
- $45 million to boost digital connectivity for regional communities.
- Reducing payroll tax rate by 25 per cent for all businesses operating mostly in regional Victoria.
HIGH GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

Victoria’s Future Industries Initiative takes a focused approach to driving growth in high-potential sectors.

Victoria’s Construction industry grew by more than $2 billion from 2015 to 2016, contributing $23.9 billion to the state’s economy.

Mission Possible. Victoria’s Defence Technologies sector is home to Australia’s highest concentration of advanced defence technology capability.

Victoria is the Food and Fibre capital of Australia and a major gateway to global markets. Victoria’s exports of prepared foods grew 38 percent from 2015 to 2016.

A booming Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals sector grew exports by 69 per cent from 2015-2016, and continues to grow manufacturing employment.

Victoria’s New Energy Technologies sector is capitalising on the Victorian renewable energy targets which provide investor confidence in renewable energy projects.

Victoria’s Transport Technologies sector features globally recognised design and engineering capabilities and is supported by the Victorian Government’s investment of $3.6 billion in a pipeline of local train and tram building and maintenance.

REGIONAL VICTORIA’S SUCCESSES IN ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

Regional Victoria is home to many diverse success stories in advanced manufacturing, with many being recognised in the Victorian Manufacturing Hall of Fame, including:

- **Australian Turntable Company**, based in Bendigo, specialises in designing, manufacturing and installing high quality mechanical rotational movement systems and has expanded from driveway car turntables into new markets including mining, construction, shipping, retail logistics, aviation and the arts.

- **Air Radiators** in Lara manufactures heat transfer and air movement solutions, including high-value engine cooling technology for heavy machinery including trucks, rails, mining equipment and power stations. Air Radiators is designing and manufacturing the cooling system for the world’s most luxurious train, the Japan Rail East (JR-East) Shiki-shima.

- **Gekko Systems** in Ballarat offers smart and cost-effective mineral processing solutions to mining companies predominantly in the gold sector with international clients across 44 countries including Canada, the United States, Morocco, New Zealand, El Salvador, Brazil, Mexico, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Myanmar, Mali and Mauritania. It is currently developing biodigesters that will help industry turn waste into renewable energy.

- **Andrew Peace Wines** is one of the largest family-owned and operated wineries in Australia and is one of Australia’s Top 15 wine companies, exporting to over 20 countries worldwide from their manufacturing site in Piangil using Victorian grapes. Investment in leading edge production technologies and diversification of wine styles and markets has ensured its ongoing global success.