



Regional Development *Australia* H U N T E R

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SEGRA 2015
The 'ME Program'



An Australian Government Initiative



A NSW Government Initiative

Case Study



me program

*RDA Hunter's ME Program is
Skilling Australia's Future Workforce*

What is the Manufacturing Education (ME) Program?



Program outcomes

- Before the program started HSC participation in STEM subjects was below the NSW average, now in the Hunter we are above the NSW average.
- 17% of students at ME Program *smart schools* select HSC physics compared with the NSW average of 14%.
- In NSW 12% of HSC Physics students will drop the subject before Year 12, the dropout rate is just 6% at ME smart schools.
- In 2012 West Wallsend High had enough interest to run its first HSC Mathematics Extension 1 class.
- Industry partner Ampcontrol's apprenticeship intake between 2012 and 2013 increased by over 70%.

ME Partnerships



The results of the program are significant for students, schools, government and industry. The outcome being of course a more highly skilled workforce that will lead to better jobs in expanding industries such as systems integration and mechatronics.

Where to now?

- **Expansion with 100% industry funding into primary schools ‘Mini ME’ program.**
- **Ready for ‘scale up’ to other regions in Australia.**
- **Engagement with other Government departments and agencies (federal and state).**

Thank you