



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**Media Release**  
**16 April 2009**

**Local Coffee Company Cream of the Crop**

Federal Member for Newcastle, Sharon Grierson MP, today congratulated local company **Precision Roasting and Drying** for being awarded a \$64,000 *Commercialising Emerging Technologies (COMET)* AusIndustry grant by the Rudd Labor Government, to help commercialise an innovative coffee bean roaster.

"This is a wonderful example of a local company leading the way in their industry," Ms Grierson said.

The coffee bean roaster significantly reduces incidents of over-cooking, and reduces gas emissions with smart reuse of exhaust gases. Running on biofuels such as café waste and paper, the roaster results in lower running costs and better quality products.

"It is a home-grown product that is not only technologically innovative but also environmentally friendly."

"Here we can see yet another example of Novocastrian companies looking to the long-term for both practicality and sustainability."

"The awarding of the grant is a testament to the viability of the product and the company."

The grant has been particularly timely, with the opening yesterday of Precision Roasting and Drying's café, Sprocket Roaster, located on the corner of Hunter and Watt Streets.

The grant will allow Precision Roasting and Drying to gain advice through a *COMET* Business Adviser on a business plan, market research and intellectual property strategies to take this local innovation to the rest of Australia and the world.

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