



TCF WA NEWS UPDATE - MARCH 2026



Belmont Business 'Ask an Export Expert' Sundowner 18th March, 5pm-7pm - [BOOKINGS](#)

Promote your business, trade opportunities and business contacts and gain new opportunities. Great Speakers and Networking.

VENUE: Firehouse Restaurant, 249-263 Grt Eastern Hwy, Belmont
FREE ENTRY, Door Prizes, Nibbles, Happy Hour Drinks, Bar Prices.



TCF AUSTRALIA EXPORT ONLINE Training & Mentoring Project Looking to increase your sales? Export your goods or services?

FREE WEBINARS – Thursday, 12th March, AWST (Perth Time)

- 1) Introduction to Exporting: 9.30-11.30am [BOOK](#)
- 2) Export Guide for Small Business: 12-2pm [BOOK](#)
- 3) Writing your Export Marketing Plan: 2.30-4.30pm [BOOK](#)

Can't make the date? [Request a Recording](#)

Register for [FREE ONLINE Export Mentor](#)

[TCF EXPORT FLYER](#) [EXPORT MEDIA RELEASE](#)



Update re VIATT26, Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam

I recently presented at VIATT26, Industry Exchange on the topic "Reciprocal Tariffs in the US: Global Impacts and Response Strategies" with speakers from Hong Kong, Singapore, USA and Taiwan. VIATT26 Exhibition had great textile innovations and new digital technology opportunities. If you are looking for training or mentoring to sell to USA or elsewhere, join our Free TCF Australia Export Webinars above or join the TCF Export Project register at tcfaustralia.com/export Enter your description



Economic Forum on VN - WA Trade & Investment Opportunities

12th March, 5:45pm – 8:30pm Ibis Hotel, 334 Murray St, Perth

A high-impact economic forum bringing together government representatives, industry leaders, and business innovators to explore real trade and investment opportunities between Vietnam and Western Australia. connect with manufacturers and suppliers, explore outsourcing options, or build strategic partnerships in one of Asia's fastest-growing economies. [Website](#).

'LIVE' AI Webinar Series 'AI for Everyday Business'

The 24/7 Service Desk: Handling Enquiries While You Sleep: \$110

10 March, Tuesday, 9-11:00am (AWST Perth) [BOOKINGS](#)

Stop letting leads go cold. Learn to configure intelligent auto-replies that maintain a warm, human tone. We will also master the art of responding to Google Reviews, turning feedback into a competitive advantage in seconds, regardless of how difficult the customer is.



Chat with Your Spreadsheet: Insights Without the Headache: \$110

17 March, Tuesday, 9-11:00am (AWST Perth) [BOOKINGS](#)

Data is only useful if you can read it. We will show you how to securely interrogate your spreadsheets using natural language. Stop wrestling with formulas and simply ask, "Which day was my busiest?" or "Identify where I'm losing margin." Get CEO-level insights on a DIY budget.



Build Your Own Digital Receptionist: Never Miss a Lead Again: \$110

24 March, Tuesday, 9-11:00am (AWST Perth) [BOOKINGS](#)

Revolutionise your customer service with a 24/7 receptionist that never sleeps. In this interactive workshop, we will actually build a secure chatbot tailored to your business knowledge to answer FAQs and capture leads. Zero coding required, total business transformation.



FINAL CALL - Sponsorship Opportunity

33rd Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards 2026

Join us to sponsor a category in the 33rd Annual Belmont & Western Australian Small Business Awards in 2026 providing recognition to small businesses across WA. Launching June and running through to October. Gain extensive promotion and marketing opportunities for your business. [View 2025 winners & sponsors](#) Further info contact [Carol Hanlon](#)



I AM WOW 2026: MARCH 7th, Wattle Grove, 10.30-5pm

Join Ms. Ellevation for I AM WOW 2026: ELEVATING WOMEN, BUSINESS AND COMMUNITIES. Held for International Women's Day, this launch honours diverse women, young achievers, and their cultural edge in leadership, communities, business, and personal impact. Enjoy delicious foods, entertainment, and meaningful community connections in a vibrant, celebratory atmosphere. Bring a friend, build new connections, and join our powerful community—[Register Now!](#)



United Nations CSW70 - NGO FORUM, March 10th

Topic: Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs, Gender Equality, and the Sustainable Development Goals

Carol Hanlon, Founder/CEO, TCF Global, Belmont BEC Inc & BPW Business Incubator will be hosting our annual NGO Forum in New York. Global speakers from USA, South Korea, Malaysia, Iran, Chile and Australia will provide updates on projects that support women around the globe. [MEDIA RELEASE](#) [EVENT FLYER](#) [SPEAKER PROFILES](#). Like to know more about NGO CSW visit www.ngocsw.org



25 free and low-cost marketing ideas for small businesses

You need to spend money to make money, or so the saying goes. For the most part, that's true: getting your products, services and brand in front of potential customers is usually a matter of paying for advertising or investing in professional marketing services. This can be a challenge for small businesses that may not have a huge budget to work with. Thankfully, there are other ways to spread the good news about your business. 25 ideas are [here](#).



Position Available

TEXTILE LAB in Wandu is seeking a highly skilled, experienced **sample sewing machinist** for samples and small production runs. Work in the studio or from home. (Work from home requirements: Industrial straight stitch machine + industrial five-thread overlocker). Friendly team, flexible arrangements. **Email:** katie@textilelab.com.au or **text:** **0435 390 633** with your availability, machine list, and a few photos of your work. Please share with your industry contacts.



Welcome to TCF WA

You are invited join TCFWA Membership – Benefits of TCF

Membership includes access to 30-60 free advisory with an accountant; lawyer; HR specialist; or IP Attorney to discuss your issues. Members also receive free webinars during the designedge innovation festival, free business sundowners, buying mission opportunities, access to mentoring at discounted rates, supply chain linkages. Bronze, Silver & Gold Levels available. Membership is tax deductible. [Join](#).

TCF invites its network to link with its Social Media pages

TCF Facebook - [Link](#)

TCF LinkedIn - [Link](#)



TCF Mission – Accommodation support and VIP Benefits

Bharat Tex 2026, July 14-17, India

Bharat Tex 2026 is where India's rich textile heritage meets modern innovation, setting the stage for global textile leadership. As the world's youngest and largest global textile show, it serves as a platform for forging partnerships and driving economic growth. [Contact TCF](#).



eBay Circular Fashion Fund 2026

The future of fashion is circular, and it's being built by those willing to do things differently. The eBay Circular Fashion Fund is entering its third year and expanding into new global markets in 2026. Now a global platform, the Fund champions founders and sellers who are extending the life of fashion, reducing waste, and reshaping the industry for the better. Applications are now open across the EU, UK, US, Germany, Australia, Canada and Switzerland. **Applications Close: 8th March**. [Details](#).

TCF Mission – support and benefits

Global Sources Hong Kong shows – April

World-class AI, innovation and lifestyle sourcing

Check out the wide range of international fairs and trade shows [here](#). Register for shows in Hong Kong for: Consumer electronics, Mobile electronics, Home and kitchen and Sports and outdoor – [Contact TCF](#).



TCF Mission – Accommodation support and VIP Benefits
Intertextile Apparel Fabrics – Shanghai, China – 11-13 March

The previous Spring Edition welcomed over 3,100 exhibitors from 25 countries and regions. Next March, Intertextile Apparel will continue to offer a wide range of products with a focus on innovation, sustainability and the latest trends. Pre-register now and prepare for your sourcing journey at one of the world's leading textile platforms. [Contact TCF](#)



India Sporting Goods Fair, 31 March – 2 April

Sourcing sports goods from India: cricket, football, hockey, badminton, tennis, table tennis and other field sports; sportswear, fitness and training equipment & accessories, etc. Indian sports equipment is used at the highest level of professional sporting events and training academies, including the Olympics and World Championships. [Website](#).



Hong Kong Jewellery Show March 4 – 8

Hong Kong Diamond, Gem and Pearl Show – March 2-6

Exceptional craftsmanship, innovative designs and customised services. Representing the very best that Hong Kong has to offer, this curated exhibition floor brings together world-class companies that are drawing on decades of expertise in design and production, and precious materials sourcing and manufacturing. Expect stunning displays featuring pure gold creations as well as collections adorned with diamonds, coloured gemstones and pearls. [Details](#).



Why 2026 will demand better from fashion - and how the industry is rising to the challenge

As the fashion industry braces for another year shaped by volatility, tightening regulation and accelerating consumer expectation, one thing is increasingly clear: 2026 will demand better from fashion, better transparency, better relationships, better design, and better business models capable of delivering both profit and purpose. [Learn more](#).



Are you a Speaker or Presenter?

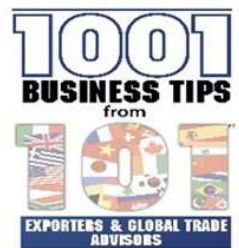
REMINDER - Like to present during 22nd designedge Innovation Festival?

BEC, TCF & BPW Members are invited to register interest in being a presenter or speaker during our 22nd designedge Innovation festival, which will run 3 months July to September to our national & global network. Speakers can present LIVE or recorded ONLINE. [View 2025 Festival Sponsor Opportunities also available](#). [Contact Carol Hanlon](#)



TCF WA, TCF Australia and TCF Global Mentors and Business Advisors

Discuss your business issues and concerns with your confidential advisor and develop your action plan for success. [Book by the Hour: Online or Phone](#)



Are you an exporter or global trade advisor?

1001 Business Tips from 101™ Exporters and Global Trade Advisor Experts

Would you like to be featured in our new eBook with your 10 tips for Exporters and Global Trade Advisors? Each expert will be allocated two pages. Participation includes additional promotional opportunities as an expert and you may also be invited as a presenter in future 1001 Business Tips Online Forums. Interested to share your expertise and gain exposure? [Contact Carol Hanlon](#)



Quote of the month

"The harder you work, the luckier you get."
Gary Player, Golfer, born 1935.



Marketing strategy vs business strategy: A quick guide

Many small business owners struggle to understand the difference between marketing strategy and business strategy. They often treat them as the same thing. But they're not. So, this guide breaks down both strategies in simple terms, to show you how they work together, and help you create a plan that delivers real results for your business – [learn how](#).



Grants and assistance programs in Australia

Find grants, funding, and support programs from across government to help YOUR business grow and succeed! When searching for funding, keep in mind that you'll generally need to meet certain criteria to be eligible, and that, aside from funding assistance, many programs can help your business by building your skills and knowledge. [Do you qualify?](#)



Protecting the planet together!

Reverse Garbage is making a difference in the world by reducing waste and creating change in the way we look at resources. Their mission is to inspire sustainable living and foster creativity by educating about reuse. This internationally recognised not-for-profit creative reuse centre is dedicated to diverting commercial and industrial waste from landfill and giving it new life. [Info](#).



50 simple, budget-friendly ideas to build a positive company culture

Creating a positive company culture is something that some business owners believe happens naturally without effort, or that it is a second priority after increasing profits. Some dismiss opportunities to improve culture due to their preconception that it requires a lot of money to do properly. [Ideas here](#).



For businesses facing financial difficulties

If your business is facing financial trouble, you should take action straight away. This will give your business the best chance of getting back on track. It's important to get advice. There are free services that can give you advice about managing your business's finances. If you're feeling distressed and overwhelmed, contact a mental health support service. [Learn more](#).



Email security for small businesses

For small businesses, securing email accounts is crucial for protecting sensitive information and maintaining client trust. Cyber threats are constantly evolving, and a compromised email can lead to data breaches, reputational damage, and financial loss. This guide offers practical tips for enhancing email security, helping small business owners safeguard their communications and maintain a secure digital environment. By taking proactive steps, you can reduce risks, protect your business's reputation, and keep your email accounts secure and resilient. [Actions to take](#).



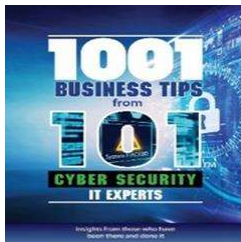
Consumer goods outlook: clothing demand under pressure in 2026

Clothing chains will focus on boosting profitability, often in the face of rising taxes, rents and wage costs. In some cases, this will mean closing yet more stores to prioritise their strongest outlets. Online sales outlets will face their own challenges: some will be affected by new tariffs on small international packages as de minimis rules tighten in many markets. [Article](#).



Small business cash flow

Managing the finances of a business can be very different from managing your personal banking and comes with a unique set of challenges and considerations. This article walks you through the basics of cash flow management and the importance of cash flow forecasting, as well as providing a few handy tips for staying on top of your incomings and outgoings, plus a free template – [here](#).



1001 Business Tips from 101™ Cyber Security IT Experts

FREE eBook for small business with tips from 101 global cyber security experts to assist small business owners and their staff to remain cybersafe. www.mybusinessincubator.com.au/1001



Newsletter from the Australian Institute of Enterprise Facilitators

To learn about the Institute in the first newsletter for 2026, plus The Six Steps in Facilitation, What is Risk Management and more - [Click](#).



Sarah tried using AI to help customers. Within months, she ditched it. More and more workplaces are leaning on artificial intelligence to complete tasks such as onboarding and to fill the roles of customer service agents and human resources, with the technology now moving far beyond being a novelty chatbot. But not all businesses are sold on the idea, with some rejecting AI over concerns that it can be difficult for customers to use and can create unnecessary confusion for both staff and clients. [Article](#).



The Cyber Sushi

Scams and Vulnerability: Who's Really at Risk
Behind the Mask: New and Trending Scams
Ask Dr Lacey: "Is this person real or a scam?" [Learn here](#).



Guide to insurance requirements for businesses

Navigating the intricate world of business insurance can seem daunting, yet understanding the essential insurance requirements is crucial for safeguarding your company's future. Whether you're a burgeoning startup or an established enterprise, having the right coverage is a legal necessity and a strategic advantage. This guide will empower you with insights into the types of business insurance available, from liability insurance to workers' compensation insurance, ensuring you make informed decisions tailored to your unique needs. [Tips](#).



The trends, tech, and trials shaping Australian retail in 2026.

Backed by an exhaustive survey of 750 Australian shoppers and exclusive insights from the nation's top retail executives, the 2026 Australian Retail Outlook provides the definitive roadmap for balancing radical automation with the human connection shoppers still crave. Download the full report to transition from AI experimentation to total execution and lead the next era of Australian commerce – [here](#).



Another tip by Vincent Scott -from the now published - '1001 Business Tips from 101™ Cyber Security Experts

Guard your bank transfers very closely. Bank transfers rather than cheques are becoming increasingly common. Guard your bank transfer information. View ANY email requesting a change in bank transfer information with extreme scepticism. Even if it looks perfectly legit, pick up the phone and dial a number you know (not from the suspect email), and verify that it is legit. Every time. Complex scams around this are standard attacks against small business. Don't fall for it.



GROW mental wellbeing programs

GROW is the premier provider of intentional peer-to-peer support to promote hope, mutual help, and recovery for good mental health for people throughout Australia. Their mission is to enable people and communities to grow, recover and maintain good mental health. [Contact](#).



Arctic wolf 2025 threat report

This extensive report takes a deep dive into the types of cyber-attacks Arctic Wolf® incident response investigated this year, why certain industries are targeted with certain kinds of tactics, techniques, and procedures, and what organisations around the globe can do to harden their defences in this changing threat landscape. Download the report with threats to your business [here](#).



Websites that you may find useful

Your all-in-one free AI photo editor. Create professional photos and bring your ideas to life effortlessly... [here](#).

PDF, video, image and other online tools to make your life easier – [here](#).

AI text to image or AI text to video AI free tool – [here](#)

Free icons and illustrations. Design freely with instant downloads – [here](#).

Get the latest AI news, understand why it matters, and learn how to apply it in your work. [Here](#).

An online **image-to-text converter** to extract text from images – [here](#).

Download almost ANY premium software from [here](#).



Tips you may find useful

Needing something different on your desktop? Open the Microsoft Store. Search for Lively wallpaper. Select, Click and Install.

Find any risky or unstable software. Windows + R. Type Sigverif. Enter. *Save this for later* – **If you turn on your computer and see a blank screen**, try this: press the Windows key + Ctrl + Shift + B all together.

Free up space – Press Windows key + R / enter shell:appsfolder – this will show all apps on your computer, so you can manage or uninstall any unwanted.



Small business and the Fair Work Act best practice guide

This best practice guide is for small business owners and managers. It explains your basic obligations under the Fair Work Act and how you can take a best practice approach to employment and workplace issues. [Details.](#)



Myth or fact: flexible working arrangements

Flexible working arrangements can support employees to balance their work and personal lives. It's important to understand the legal requirements for flexible work arrangements and how they can benefit your business. This article busts some myths about common flexible work arrangements. [Learn more.](#)

How Payday Super works

Payday Super is a change to how you calculate and when you pay your employees' super guarantee. From 1 July 2026, you must pay employees their super guarantee on payday, at the same time as their salary and wages. *Super guarantee is:* calculated as 12% of an employee's qualifying earnings (QE), which is a new term that brings together ordinary time earnings (OTE) and other payments paid to an employee's super fund on payday and received by the super fund within 7 business days (unless an extended timeframe applies, such as for new employees.) [More information.](#)



Reduce your business energy costs by 20% - 40%

FREE Access Energy Efficiency Webinars [Contact us.](#)



STORAGE KING PERTH AIRPORT – special % offer

Past Winner - Facility of the Year Award

15% off storage boxes and 50% off the first 2 months of storage. Storage King can ship your parcels to anywhere in the world. Storage King arrange the booking and email consignment notes for clients to attach to their deliveries. We offer a wide range of self-storage options, from lockers to vehicle storage.

[Phone](#) [Email](#) [W: storageking.com.au](http://www.storageking.com.au)

Our special thanks to Storage King Perth Airport for their great support in sponsoring storage of textiles and sewing machines donated for our next community village sewing projects.



FOR HIRE - Training and Meeting Rooms at Belmont BEC

Fully equipped training room, catering and refreshments available. Unit 3, 216 Belmont Ave., Cloverdale - [Contact Belmont BEC](#)

Business Skills 'On Demand' Sessions



Live and Recorded Webinar for Online - Anytime - Fast Track your Training
Members receive one FREE webinar below during **March** - [Contact us](#)

- [Writing Your Business Plan](#)
- [Pricing, Costing and Cashflow](#)

- [Starting Your New Business](#)
- [Understanding the Australian Privacy Changes](#)
- [Credit Management And Debt Collection](#)
- [How To Write A Tender Or Grant Submission](#)
- [Tips on Building a Successful Business](#)
- [Preparing For A Fashion Trade Show](#)
- [How To Start A Fashion Label](#)
- [Quality Control In The Fashion Industry](#)
- [Importing and Exporting](#)
- [Get Noticed By The Media](#)
- [How To Brief Your Website Developer](#)
- [TESTEX – Textile Accreditation and Labelling](#)
- [Avoiding Manufacturing Pitfalls](#)
- [Marketing On A Budget](#)
- [Strategies for Off Shore Outsourcing](#)
- [Sourcing in Asia via HK](#)
- [Sourcing Textiles & Apparel in India](#)
- [Buying Or Selling A Business](#)
- [Fashioning Sustainability Diverse Perspectives](#)
- [Balancing Work And Life](#)
- [Credit Management And Debt Collection](#)
- [How To Write A Tender Or Grant Submission](#)
- [Tips on Building a Successful Business](#)
- [Connect your Business to the Women's Empowerment Principles](#)
- [How To Grow Your Fashion Business](#)
- [Understanding your Intellectual Property – Trademarks, Designs, Patents](#)
- [Ethical Fashion and the Triple Bottom Line](#)
- [Italian Fashion Media](#)
- [Preparing a Business for Sale](#)
- [Global Platform for Sourcing From Women Vendors](#)
- [Tips on Using Social Media in your Business](#)
- [Make Customer Experience Your Competitive Edge](#)
- [Understanding Freight Logistics of Importing and Exporting](#)
- [How To Grow Your Business](#)
- [Strategies for Off Shore Sourcing](#)
- [Establishing Your Label in the USA](#)
- [What Buyers Are Looking For](#)
- [Specification Sheets for Apparel Manufacturing](#)
- [Marketing for Small Fashion Business](#)

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